

TOWN OF ARLINGTON

DECEMBER 2022

PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN

2023-2026





Town of Arlington

Public Land Management Plan

Prepared for:

Department of Community Planning & Design

Prepared by:

Kyle Zick Landcape Architecture, Inc.

27 December 2022



This page left intentionally blank

Table of contents

Executive summary	v
Introduction	ix
Part 1. Existing conditions by use	3
Public Land Summary Spreadsheet	4
Existing maintenance & management practices	12
Analysis of responsible entities.....	16
 LARGE PUBLIC LANDS	
Arlington Reservoir.....	20
Arlington's Great Meadows	28
Cooke's Hollow	35
Crusher Lot.....	40
Hill's Hill	44
Meadowbrook Park	48
Menotomy Rocks Park	54
Mount Gilboa	61
Turkey Hill	65
Window-on-the-Mystic.....	69
 SMALL CONSERVATION LANDS	
53 Park Avenue Rear	78
Brand Street	80
Brattle Street	82
Central StrEet	84
Concord Turnpike	86
Forest Street.....	88
Hemlock Street.....	90
Inverness Street	92
Kilsythe Road	94
Mohawk Road.....	96

Table of contents (Continued)

Philemon Street.....	98
Ridge Street.....	100
Ruble Street.....	102
Short Street	104
Spring Street.....	106
Stone Road	108
Water Street	110
Woodside Lane.....	112

PARKS + FIELDS

Bishop Elementary School Field	117
Buzzell Field.....	121
Florence Field	125
Hurd Field	129
Magnolia Park & Field.....	134
McClennen Park	140
North Union Park/Lussiano Field.....	146
Ottoson Middle School Field	150
Parallel Park	154
Pheasant Avenue Park/Greeley Playground.....	158
Poet's Corner.....	162
Robbins Farm Park.....	168
Spy Pond Park & Scannell Field	173
Thorndike Fields.....	180
Veterans' Memorial Sports Complex	185
Waldo Park & Playground	189
Wellington Park	193

MONUMENTS, OPEN SPACES, AND GARDENS

Monument Park.....	201
Mount Pleasant Cemetery.....	205
Old Burying Ground.....	211
Park Circle Water Tower	215
Town Hall Civic Block	219

Table of contents (Continued)

Uncle Sam Park & Monument.....	225
Whittemore Park	229
Part 2. Legal & regulatory environment	233
Federal policies	234
Commonwealth of Massachusetts policies.....	235
Town of Arlington policies	236
Town of Arlington guidance documents.....	246
Part 3. Best management practices & funding opportunities	248
Best management practices	249
Federal, state & municipal funding opportunities	280
Additional resources	288
Part 4. Public land management recommendations	289
Recommendations for management entities	290
Land use type priorities	290
Recommendations by land use type.....	292
Existing maintenance contracts.....	300
Site-specific recommendations spreadsheet.....	302
Contracted work summary spreadsheet	309
Recommendations for Future Public Land Management Plans	314

This page left intentionally blank

Executive summary

The Town of Arlington's Public Land Management Plan is intended to be a guidance document for the various entities that manage public open space on behalf of the residents of Arlington. This goal is achieved through the short- and long-term recommendations herein.

The Public Land Management Plan was guided by key representatives within the Town of Arlington who formed the Public Land Management Plan Working Group. The Working Group, originally formed by the Select Board in 2016, was reconvened for the purposes of developing this plan.

- Joe Connelly, Director of Recreation
- Christine Deshler, Chair, Finance Committee
- Jim Feeney, Deputy Town Manager
- Phil Lasker, Chair, Park & Recreation Commission/Resident
- Ann LeRoyer, Open Space Committee, Chair
- Kelly Lynema, Assistant Director, Planning and Community Development
- David Morgan, Environmental Planner and Conservation Agent
- Michael Rademacher, Director of Public Works
- Claire Ricker, Director Planning and Community Development
- Jennifer Raitt, Former Director, Planning and Community Development
- Jen Rothenberg, Park and Recreation Commission
- David White, Conservation Commissioner

This group established the list of public lands included in the report, identified specific concerns facing the management of publicly owned lands, and defined management priorities for the land use types identified. Stakeholders from other boards and committees, and the public also informed the process.

Land management is a holistic approach. For example, evaluating informal trails across Town properties to assess whether they should be closed or formalized and made accessible—this is land management. By contrast, raking and re-grading a playground's wood chip pathway each season—this is land maintenance. Land management aims at addressing the bigger picture, understanding the strengths and failures of a system, and looking at long-term strategies.

The plan that follows inventories a subset of Arlington's public lands, analyzes the policies that govern them, identifies best practices for the treatment of such lands, and makes recommendations for their management. Fifty-two properties are included, ranging from parks to athletic fields to conservation lands. These are managed by six entities within the Town: the Recreation Department, the Conservation Commission, the Town Manager's Office, the Select Board, the School Department, and the Cemetery Commission.

The properties have been divided into four categories: (1) large public lands, (2) small conservation parcels, (3) parks and fields, and (4) monuments, open space, and gardens. Owing to differences in land use and ownership, playgrounds, courts, and privately owned open spaces were excluded from the study, as were state-owned properties, including the Minuteman Bikeway. The location, ownership, management, and maintenance for each site is defined. The site's current uses, the variety of landscape types present, and other details relevant

Executive summary (continued)

to land management are also detailed, such as trails, green infrastructure, invasive species, waste removal, and dog walking rules.

To better understand who benefits from land management, the inventory identifies whether the site is within or proximate to an environmental justice (EJ) neighborhood. EJ neighborhoods are those segments of the population that are most at risk of being unaware of or unable to participate in environmental decision-making/gain access to environmental resources, or are especially vulnerable. This report uses the block group level definitions developed by the state's Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs and Community Development Block Grant eligible census tracts.

The legal and regulatory environment in which these lands are managed is a critical factor in terms of Town decision making. Some lands are required to be managed for certain uses owing to such constraints, and some must be managed according to state and/or federal policy. Local plans and policies are also identified that inform choices about Arlington's land management.

Best management practices (BMPs) were identified by expert review of similarly situated management entities, academic findings, and industry practices. These BMPs were then aligned with Town plans as described by the Working Group and Town staff. Given the variety of land use types among Arlington's open spaces, the list is necessarily wide ranging and comprehensive. It is also highly specific, dealing with the particulars of any given management technique. Town employees and committee members shaped the list and as such it incorporates many practices that are already employed in Arlington. Some are more

aspirational long-range goals. All BMPs have been vetted for appropriateness, but employing any one practice will depend on the circumstances at the time.

The vast majority of the properties inventoried here are managed by either the Recreation Department (twenty two holdings) or the Conservation Commission (five large parcels and eighteen small holdings). However, the properties managed by these two entities are dramatically different, due in large part to the nature of the landscapes. The Recreation Department manages Arlington's parks, athletic fields, school fields, and the Town's only swimming beach. These recreation properties also feature woodland areas, open lawn areas, varying types of trails, meadow/grasslands, native plant/pollinator gardens, community gardens, and ornamental gardens. The maintenance of the Recreation Department's properties is undertaken by the Department of Public Works, primarily the Parks Division. In contrast, the properties managed by the Conservation Commission are mainly woodlands and wetlands. Maintenance of conservation properties is primarily led by community volunteers.

Public land management recommendations for the Town of Arlington were determined by pairing BMPs with priorities established by the Working Group. Conservation priorities include developing a plan for overall maintenance of sites, consistently managing invasive plants, and managing landscapes for biodiversity and pollinator pathways. A more consistent, ecological approach to small Conservation Commission owned parcels is desired. For passive recreation, the focus is on trail maintenance—closing social trails, preventing erosion, and facilitating maintenance of the most intensively used facilities. Wayfinding and educational signage in the

Executive summary (continued)

landscape are likewise important. Active recreation priorities include management of the heavy use of athletic fields, given limited options for their rotation. Priorities for properties used to manage flood control—a significant issue in the Town of Arlington, especially along Mill Brook corridor—include incorporating permeable pavement and green infrastructure, bank stabilization, and dam operations/water level controls at the Reservoir and Spy Pond. Although stakeholders in historic/cultural, civic, cemetery, and educational land uses were brought in to the process in an advisory capacity, priorities for these interests were not identified as part of the plan.

The recommendations contained in these pages were reviewed and refined by the Working Group and other stakeholders, including the public. Accordingly, they reflect diverse perspectives, align with Town priorities, and are informed by expert guidance. The resulting recommendations are intended to reduce maintenance efforts by incorporating more sustainable strategies and green infrastructure, to reduce the cost and labor burden of maintenance, to support and improve ecological systems, to educate staff and public land visitors, and to improve the visitor's experience when enjoying public lands in Arlington.

The Town sees this publication as the first iteration of the Public Land Management Plan meant to serve the community from 2023 to 2026. The plan will be revisited in 3-year increments. It is clear that a plan with such detail should be implemented in phases, with regular updates related to changed conditions. Subsequent versions may include additional properties, such as those that are privately-owned but opened to the public, as well as other land use types including beach, courts, and/or playgrounds. This report is intended to be a living document that supports Town agencies and their consultants.

HOW TO USE THIS REPORT

The report begins by designating the parcels into four categories: Large public lands; small conservation parcels (tax holdings); parks and fields; and monuments, open spaces, and gardens. Each of the parcels were inventoried to document their existing resources. Section 1 of this report documents each of the parcels, noting which Town entity manages the parcel, who maintains it, parcel identification numbers, acreage, and jurisdictional entities. A summary chart begins the section, followed by comprehensive record of existing uses, protection status, natural and cultural resources, site history, site rules (if applicable), as well as, supporting plans or planning documents. Additionally, the site amenities which specifically require landscape management are notated. These include current uses, which for the purposes of this report: active recreation conservation, historic/cultural, flood control, passive recreation, cemetery, civic, and educational—which in this case refers to the property having a role in the school day, either a space students/staff/parents will access to reach a school or a space used for play in the school day). Landscape types have been defined as woodlands, specimen trees, open lawn, meadow/grassland, community garden, ornamental garden, native plant/pollinator garden, and sports fields; walkway materials, green infrastructure, and invasive plants. These inventories are supported with maps and photographs of general conditions. The eighteen small conservation parcels have condensed inventories given their relative size—typically less than two-tenths of an acre in size—and therefore limited use.

Section 2 documents the regulatory and legal environment of the Town of Arlington in 2022. Discussed here are the federal policies which directly impact the properties in the report, typically due to the requirements of grants applied to a landscape, as well the

protection statue granted to parkland by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Furthermore, the Town policies and guidelines, relevant to the public lands have been summarized.

Section 3 reviews best management practices for public lands. The practices included are derived from public agencies and municipalities with similar land use types and similar levels of funding; many come from the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation.

Finally, Section 4 identifies a series of recommendations based on the synopsis of the previous discussions included in the report. It includes general recommendations for management entities, identifies the land use type priorities, and makes recommendations based on land use type. A spreadsheet follows which applies the recommendations to the properties included in this iteration of the report. Lastly, the existing maintenance contracts are analyzed with supporting recommendations.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A dedicated group of stakeholders made this plan possible, most notably the members of the Public Land Management Working Group. The members of boards and committees represented within the Working Group were also contributors, including the Conservation Commission, Open Space Committee, and Park & Recreation Commission. Stakeholders consulted by the Working Group included Michele Hassler (Cemetery Commission), Patsy Kraemer (Arlington Garden Club), and JoAnn Robinson (Historical Commission).

Participating Town staff included Department of Public Works employees Wayne Chouinard (Engineer), Bill Copithorne (Assistant Engineer), Tim Lecuivre (Tree Warden), Bryan Mount (Supervisor of Parks, Department of Public Works), and Dan Warren (Operations Manager).

The Public Land Management Plan was funded by a Community Preservation Act (CPA) award.

Introduction

DISCUSSION OF PROJECT GOALS & SCOPE

The purpose of the Public Land Management Plan is to study issues related to the a short- and long-term management of open space, recreational land, and other natural resources for the identified Town-owned public lands. The primary goal was to create specific land management actions for the studied properties.

PROJECT PROCESS

The project was undertaken in the beginning of 2022 and continued for the course of the year. The scope was divided into four phases.

- Phase 1: Assessment of public open space resources and inventory of their current uses
- Phase 2: Identification and analysis of state and local legal/regulatory environment pertinent to Town management of open space
- Phase 3: Survey of best management practices for municipal-scale open space and funding opportunities for plan implementation
- Phase 4: Production of final open space assessment reports and maps; submission of the management plan to the Town

The Working Group was reconvened in March of 2022. A preliminary inventory and legal analysis was delivered to the Working Group in April, and feedback provided during the month of May. A research period followed and input was sought from the Working Group in September concerning best management practices and recommendations. Other boards and committees were consulted during September and the public provided input at the final Public Land Management Plan forum in December.

PROJECT LIST

The projects included in this report were determined by the Planning Department. Fifty-two sites were selected, all of which are Town-owned with the exception of one. (Parallel Park is in fact owned by the Commonwealth's Department of Conservation and Recreation and leased to the Town.) Playgrounds were eliminated from the study as they are less subject to land management than maintenance practices.

The parcels included in this plan were then categorized into four types based on their landscape characteristics:

- Large public lands
- Small conservation parcels (tax holdings)
- Parks and fields
- Monuments, open spaces, and gardens

Open space properties not included in this project include the following:

- Alewife Brook Reservation and Greenway (MA DCR)
- Arlington Catholic Field (private)
- Arlington Community Orchard (Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, MWRA)
- Arlington High School, including W.A. Pierce Field (Town of Arlington)
- Boys & Girls Club (Private)
- Brackett School (Town of Arlington)
- Crosby School Park (Town of Arlington)
- Elizabeth Island in Spy Pond (Arlington Land Trust)
- Foot of the Rocks (Town of Arlington)

Introduction (continued)

- Gibbs Gym Playgrounds (Town of Arlington)
- Hardy School Playground (Town of Arlington)
- Hibbert Park/Playground (Town of Arlington)
- Locke School Playground (Town of Arlington)
- Kelwyn Manor Park (Private)
- Minuteman Bikeway (Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, MBTA)
- Mystic Lakes State Park (MA DCR)
- Mystic River State Reservation (MA DCR)
- Parmenter School Park/Playground (Town of Arlington)
- Pierce Elementary School Field (Town of Arlington)
- Prince Hall Mystic Cemetery (private)
- Reinhart Park at the former Cutter School (Town of Arlington)
- Symmes Woods and Parks (Private)

ACRONYMS

- **ALS** – Arlington Land Stewards
- **CDBG** – Community Development Block Grant (federal), see Section 3 for more information
- **CPA** – Community Preservation Act, see Section 3 for more information
- **DPW** – Arlington Department of Public Works
- **EEA** – Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
- **EPA** – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- **FoAGM** – Friends of Arlington's Great Meadows

- **LWCF** – Land & Water Conservation Fund, see Section 3 for more information
- **MA DCR** – Massachusetts Department of Conservation & Recreation
- **MBTA** – Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, the state's mass transit
- **MPPF** – Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund
- **MVP** – Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (state), see Section 3 for more information
- **MWRA** – Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, the state's agency which provides wholesale drinking water and sewage services to certain municipalities and industrial users, primarily in the Boston area
- **MassDEP** – Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
- **NRCS** – Natural Resources Conservation Service, part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture
- **OSRP** – Open Space & Recreation Plan, prepared by the Town of Arlington Open Space Committee every five years
- **PARC** – Parkland Acquisitions & Renovations for Communities (state grant), see Section 3 for more information
- **U.S. ACoE** – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

DEFINITIONS

- **Adjacent Upland Resource Areas/Buffer Zone** - A wetlands designation of the area 100 feet horizontally lateral from the boundary of any of the following Resource Areas: marsh, freshwater wetland, vernal pool, wet meadow, bog,

Introduction (continued)

swamp, bank, stream, creek, pond, reservoir, or lake.

- **Bank** - A wetlands designation of the portion of the land surface which normally abuts and confines a water body, often between the mean annual low flow level and the first observable break in the slope or the mean annual flood level, whichever is lower.
- **Boardwalk** – A walkway constructed of wood boards, often elevated over grade.
- **Bordering land subject to flooding** - an area with low, flat topography adjacent to and inundated by floodwaters rising from brooks, creeks, rivers, streams, pond or lakes. It extends from the banks of these waterways and water bodies; where a bordering vegetated wetland occurs, it extends from said wetland.
- **Bio-swale** – As defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Often found along curbs and in parking lots, use vegetation or mulch to slow and filter stormwater flows.
- **Constructed wetland** – As defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Treatment systems that use natural processes involving wetland vegetation, soils, and their associated microbial assemblages to improve water quality.
- **Diameter Breast Height (DBH)** - Unit of measurement for a tree, generally measured around four-and-a-half feet from grade
- Detention basin – An engineered stormwater management basin which holds water only while it infiltrates back into the subsoil.
- **Environmental Justice (EJ)** - Segments of the population determined to be most at risk of being unaware of or unable to participate in environmental decision-making or to gain access to state environmental resources, or are especially vulnerable, as identified by the 2022 Arlington Open Space and Recreation Plan, Section 4.
- **Floodplain** - FEMA Hazard Zone with 1% Annual Chance of Flood
- **Green infrastructure** – As defined by the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act passed by the U.S. Congress in 2019: The range of measures that use plant or soil systems, permeable pavement or other permeable surfaces or substrates, stormwater harvest and reuse, or landscaping to store, infiltrate, or evapo-transpire stormwater and reduce flows to sewer systems or to surface waters.
- **Isolated land subject to flooding** - A wetlands designation of an isolated depression or closed basin without an inlet or an outlet. It is an area which at least once a year confines standing water.
- **Land Subject to Flooding or Inundation** - A wetlands designation of land within the estimated maximum lateral extent of flood water which will theoretically result from the statistical 100-year frequency storm; said boundary shall be that determined by reference to the most recently available flood profile data prepared for Arlington within which the work is proposed under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).
- **Land under Water Bodies and Waterways** - A wetlands designation of the bottom of or land under the surface of a creek, river, stream, pond or lake.
- **Permeable pavements** – As defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Pavements which infiltrate, treat, and/or store rainwater where it falls. They

Introduction (continued)

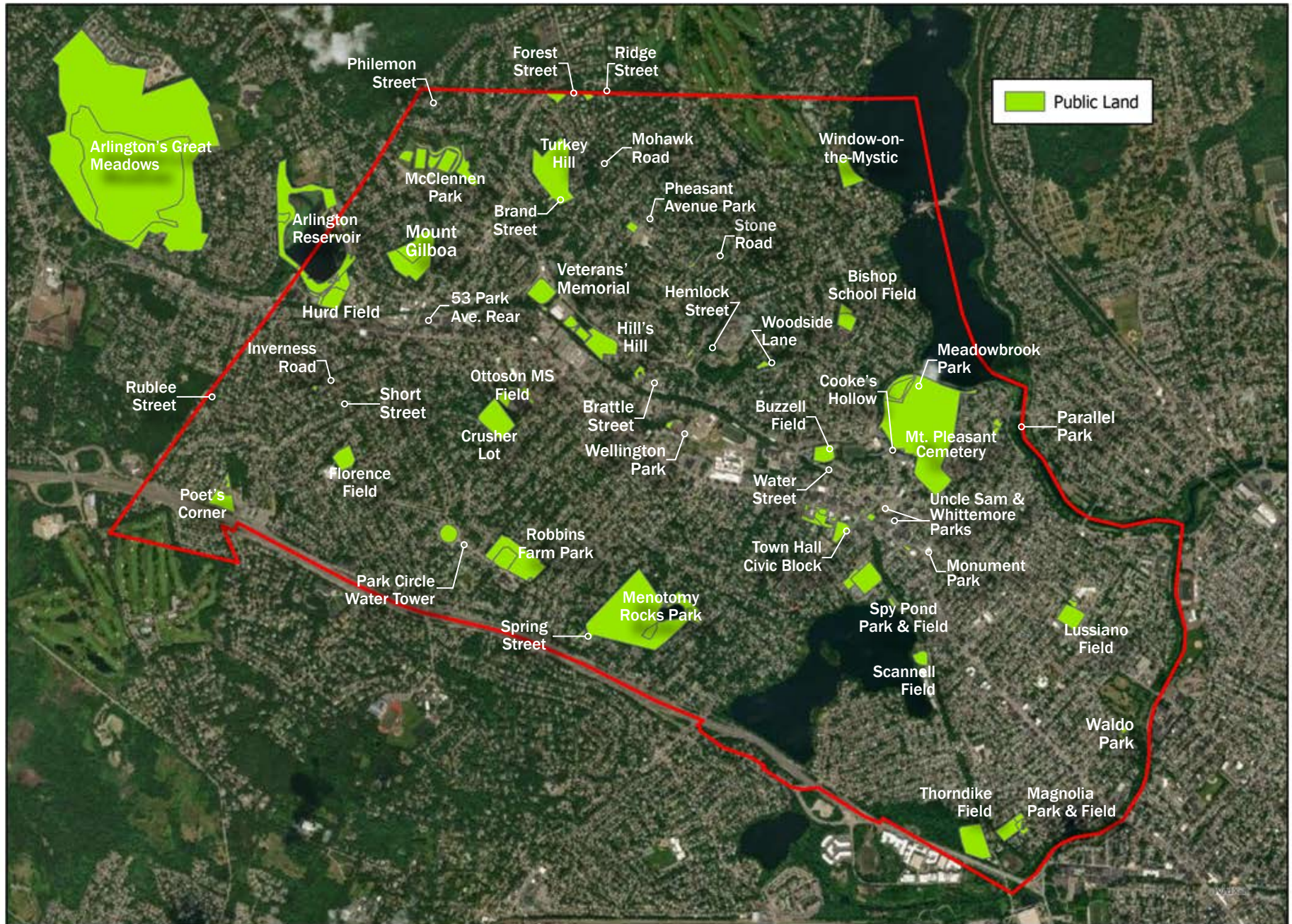
can be made of pervious concrete, porous asphalt, or permeable interlocking pavers. This practice could be particularly cost effective where land values are high and flooding or icing is a problem.

- **Rain garden** – As defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Small, shallow, sunken areas of plantings that collect stormwater runoff from roofs, streets, and sidewalks. Also known as bio-retention cells, they are designed to mimic the natural ways water flows over and absorbs into land to reduce stormwater pollution.
- **Regulatory wetland area** – According to the Arlington Regulations for Wetlands Protection, regulatory wetlands include the following: vegetated wetlands (wet meadows, marches, swamps, and bogs); Land Under Water Bodies (under any stream, pond, or lake); and Land Subject to Flooding (both bordering and isolated).
- **Retention basin** – An engineered stormwater management basin which holds water
- **Riverfront Area** - A wetlands designation of the area of land between a river's mean annual high water line and a parallel line measured 200 feet horizontally landward of the mean annual high water line.
- **Social trails** – A social trail is one that has been created by repeated use of people, typically informal, and has not been intentionally designed
- **Stabilized crushed granite/stonedust** – Stabilized trail surfaces are those comprised of fine aggregates that are bound with a natural binder (often resin) and compacted. They are typically considered to be a permeable pavement.
- **Vegetated Wetland** - Freshwater wetlands, including both bordering vegetated wetlands (i.e., bordering on

freshwater bodies such as on creeks, rivers, streams, ponds and lakes), and isolated vegetated wetlands which do not border on any permanent water body. The types of freshwater wetlands are wet meadows, marshes, swamps, bogs and vernal pools. Vegetated Wetlands are areas where soils are saturated and/or inundated such that they support a predominance of wetland indicator plants.

- **Water Bodies** - Streams, brooks, ponds, and lakes

SITES ANALYZED



This page left intentionally blank






Part 1. Existing conditions by use

The following pages include a summary spreadsheet of the larger parcels included in the Public Land Management Plan. The small Conservation Commission owned parcels are excluded.* This spreadsheet details the most essential information: parcel ownership, management entity, maintenance responsibility, current land uses, landscape types, walkway/trail surfaces, green infrastructure elements, presence of invasive plants, waste pick-up, off-leash dog rules, and jurisdictional wetlands.

Those sites identified in the 2022 *Arlington Open Space and Recreation Plan* as being located in an Environmental Justice community are noted with EJ+ in the Property category of the spreadsheet. Those sites located within a Community Development Block Group census tract are noted with EJ. An Environmental Justice designation applies to all but four of the larger properties included in this plan—one of which is Arlington’s Great Meadows, which is entirely located in the Town of Lexington. Many of the small conservation parcels are also located in, or within 1/4-mile of, an Environmental Justice area.

* These parcels are so limited in size, use, and landscape types that they have very few of the essential elements listed above. Additionally, these parcels are all owned by the Town and managed by the Conservation Commission.

In these tables and in the project inventory, the parcels have also been color-coordinated by the Town entity which manages them; these include the following:

Recreation Department	
Conservation Commission	
Select Board	
Office of the Town Manager	
Cemetery Commission	
School Department	

Public Land Summary Spreadsheet

Property	Ownership	Managed by	Maintenance	Current uses	Landscape types	Walkways/trails	Green infrastructure	Invasive plants	Dogs	Jurisdiction
Arlington Reservoir EJ+/EJ	Town of Arlington (Partially located in Lexington)	Recreation Department	Town: Recreation Department - beach & trash Contracted: mowing (2022); aquatic weed harvesting; porous pavement Volunteers: yes	Conservation Passive recreation Flood Control	Woodlands Specimen trees Open lawn Invasive species Native/pollinator garden	Earthen/social trail Crushed granite/stonedust Stabilized crushed granite Porous pave	Porous pavement Retention/detention basin	Upland Aquatic	Limited off-leash hours (beach & trail)	Arlington Conservation Commission Lexington Conservation Commission MassDEP Office of Dam Safety U.S. ACoE
Arlington's Great Meadows	Town of Arlington (Located in Lexington)	Select Board	Town: n/a Contracted: mowing through Friends group Volunteers: Friends group	Conservation Passive recreation	Woodlands Meadow/grassland Invasive species	Earthen/social trail Other: boardwalk	-	Upland	No off-leash dogs	Lexington Conservation Commission
Bishop Elementary School Field EJ+	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	Town: DPW Parks Division mows, stripes & trash Contracted: Turf treatment Volunteers: n/a	Passive recreation Active recreation Education	Specimen trees Open lawn Natural turf sports field Clay sports field	-	-	-	No off-leash dogs	-
Buzzell Fields EJ	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	Town: DPW Parks Division mows, stripes & trash Contracted: Turf treatment Volunteers: n/a	Active recreation	Specimen trees Natural turf sports field Clay sports field	Other: bituminous	-	-	No off-leash dogs	-

Property	Ownership	Managed by	Maintenance	Current uses	Landscape types	Walkways/trails	Green infrastructure	Invasive plants	Dogs	Jurisdiction
Cooke's Hollow EJ	Town of Arlington	Conservation Commission	Town: Trash only Contracted: mowing, weeding, fall/spring clean-ups & trash Volunteers: ALS	Conservation Passive recreation Flood Control	Woodlands Specimen trees Open lawn Invasive species	Crushed granite/stonedust	-	Upland	No off-leash dogs	Arlington Conservation Commission MassDEP Waterways Regulatory Floodway
Crusher Lot EJ	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	Town: n/a Contracted: n/a Volunteers: ALS, Friends group	Conservation Passive recreation	Woodlands Invasive species	Earthen/social trail	-	Upland	No off-leash dogs	-
Florence Field at the Dallin Elementary School	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	Town: DPW Parks Division mows, stripes & trash Contracted: Turf treatment Volunteers: n/a	Active recreation Education	Specimen trees Natural turf sports field Clay sports field	Other: bituminous	-	-	No off-leash dogs	
Hill's Hill EJ+	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	Town: DPW Parks Division mows, stripes & trash (field only) Contracted: Turf treatment Volunteers: ALS	Conservation Passive recreation Active recreation	Woodlands Natural turf sports field	Earthen/social trail Other: bituminous	-	-	Limited off-leash hours	-

Property	Ownership	Managed by	Maintenance	Current uses	Landscape types	Walkways/trails	Green infrastructure	Invasive plants	Dogs	Jurisdiction
Hurd Field EJ+/EJ	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	Town: DPW Parks Division mows, stripes & trash Contracted: Turf treatment Volunteers: yes	Active recreation	Woodlands Specimen trees Open lawn Meadow/grassland Invasive species Natural turf sports field Clay sports field	Earthen/social trail Porous pave	Porous pavement Bio-swale/rain garden	Upland	Limited off-leash hours	Arlington Conservation Commission MassDEP Waterways Regulatory Floodway
Magnolia Park & Field EJ+	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	Town: DPW Parks Division mows, stripes & trash Contracted: Turf treatment Volunteers: Friends group	Passive recreation Active recreation	Specimen trees Open lawn Community garden Native/pollinator garden Natural turf sports field	Other: bituminous	Bio-swale/rain garden	-	No off-leash dogs	Arlington Conservation Commission Regulatory Floodway
McClennen Park EJ+	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	Town: DPW Parks Division mows, stripes & trash Contracted: Turf treatment Volunteers: Friends group, Water bodies WG	Conservation Passive recreation Active recreation Flood control	Woodlands Specimen trees Open lawn Meadow/grassland Invasive species Natural turf sports field Clay sports field	Earthen/social trail Crushed granite/stonedust Other: bituminous	Retention/detention basin Other: floating islands	Upland	Limited off-leash hours	Arlington Conservation Commission MassDEP Waterways

Property	Ownership	Managed by	Maintenance	Current uses	Landscape types	Walkways/trails	Green infrastructure	Invasive plants	Dogs	Jurisdiction
Meadowbrook Park EJ+/EJ	Town of Arlington	Conservation Commission	Town: n/a Contracted: n/a Volunteers: ALS	Conservation Passive recreation Flood control	Woodlands Invasive species	Earthen/social trail	-	Upland	No off-leash dogs	Arlington Conservation Commission MassDEP Waterways Regulatory Floodway
Menotomy Rocks Park	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	Town: trash only Contracted: turf treatment; mowing, weeding, fall/spring clean-ups Volunteers: Friends group	Conservation Passive recreation	Woodlands Specimen trees Open lawn Invasive species	Crushed granite/stonedust	Other: floating islands	Upland Aquatic	Limited off-leash hours	Arlington Conservation Commission
Monument Park EJ+/EJ	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	Town: n/a Contracted: n/a Volunteers: n/a	Historic/Cultural	Specimen trees Open lawn Ornamental gardens	Other: brick	-	-	No off-leash dogs	Arlington Historic Commission
Mount Gilboa EJ+/EJ	Town of Arlington	Conservation Commission Town Manager (structures)	Town: n/a Contracted: n/a Volunteers: ALS	Conservation Passive recreation	Woodlands	Earthen/social trail	-	Upland	No off-leash dogs	Arlington Historic Commission
Mount Pleasant Cemetery EJ+/EJ	Town of Arlington	Cemetery Commission	Town: trash only Contracted: turf treatment, mowing, weeding, spring/fall clean-ups Volunteers: n/a	Passive recreation Cemetery	Specimen trees Open lawn Invasive species	n/a	-	Upland	No off-leash dogs	Arlington Conservation Commission MassDEP Waterways Regulatory Floodway

Property	Ownership	Managed by	Maintenance	Current uses	Landscape types	Walkways/trails	Green infrastructure	Invasive plants	Dogs	Jurisdiction
North Union Park & Lussiano Field EJ+/EJ	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	Town: DPW Parks Division mows, stripes & trash Contracted: Turf treatment Volunteers: n/a	Passive recreation Active recreation Education	Specimen trees Open lawn Natural turf sports field Clay sports field	Other: bituminous	-	-	No off-leash dogs	-
Old Burying Ground	Town of Arlington	Cemetery Commission	Town: n/a Contracted: mowing, fall/spring clean-ups Volunteers: n/a	Historic/Cultural Cemetery	Specimen trees Open lawn Invasive species	-	-	Upland	No off-leash dogs	Arlington Historic Commission
Ottoson Middle School Field EJ	Town of Arlington	School Department	Town: trash only Contracted: Turf treatment for ball field only; front field: mowing, weeding, fall/spring clean-ups Volunteers: n/a	Active recreation Education	Woodlands Open lawn Natural turf sports field Clay sports field	Earthen/social trail	-	-	No off-leash dogs	-
Parallel Park EJ+/EJ	Owned by MA DCR, leased to Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	Town: trash only Contracted: mowing, weeding, fall/spring clean-ups & trash Volunteers: n/a	Passive recreation Active recreation	Woodlands Specimen trees Open lawn	Other: bituminous	-	-	No off-leash dogs	-
Park Circle Water Tower	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	Town: n/a Contracted: mowing, weeding, fall/spring clean-ups & trash Volunteers: n/a	Passive recreation	Specimen trees Open lawn	Other: bituminous	-	-	No off-leash dogs	-

Property	Ownership	Managed by	Maintenance	Current uses	Landscape types	Walkways/trails	Green infrastructure	Invasive plants	Dogs	Jurisdiction
Pheasant Avenue Park/Greeley Playground	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	Town: DPW Parks Division mows & stripes Contracted: Turf treatment Volunteers: Friends group (?)	Passive recreation Active recreation Education	Specimen trees Open lawn Natural turf sports field	Other: bituminous	-	-	No off-leash dogs	-
Poet's Corner	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	Town: DPW Parks Division mows, stripes & trash Contracted: Turf treatment Volunteers: n/a	Active recreation	Woodlands Specimen trees Open lawn Invasive species Natural turf sports field Clay sports field	Other: bituminous	-	Upland	Limited off-leash hours	Arlington Conservation Commission
Robbins Farm Park	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	Town: DPW Parks Division mows, stripes & trash Contracted: Turf treatment Volunteers: Friends group	Passive recreation Active recreation Historic/Cultural	Specimen trees Open lawn Community garden Natural turf sports field Clay sports field	Crushed granite/stonedust Other: bituminous	-	-	Limited off-leash hours	-
Spy Pond Park & Scannell Fields	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	Town: trash only Contracted: turf treatment; mowing, weeding, fall/spring clean-ups Volunteers: Friends group	Conservation Passive recreation Active recreation	Woodlands Specimen trees Open lawn Invasive species Natural turf sports field Clay sports field	Earthen/social trail Porous pave Other: bituminous	Porous pavement Bio-swale/rain garden Retention/detention basin	Upland Aquatic	Limited off-leash hours	Arlington Conservation Commission MassDEP Waterways

Property	Ownership	Managed by	Maintenance	Current uses	Landscape types	Walkways/trails	Green infrastructure	Invasive plants	Dogs	Jurisdiction
Thorndike Field EJ+	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	Town: DPW Parks Division mows, stripes & trash Contracted: Turf treatment Volunteers: Friends group	Active recreation	Woodlands Invasive species Natural turf sports field	Crushed granite/stonedust	Porous pavement Other: geogrid	Upland	Limited off-leash hours: Thorndike dog park	Arlington Conservation Commission MassDEP Waterways Regulatory Floodway
Town Hall Civic Block EJ	Town of Arlington	Office of the Town Manager	Town: trash only Contracted: turf treatment; mowing, fall/spring clean-ups Volunteers: Friends group	Passive recreation Historic/Cultural Civic	Woodlands Specimen trees Open lawn Invasive species Ornamental garden	Other: brick	Bio-swale/rain garden (at community center)	Upland	No off-leash dogs	Arlington Historic Commission
Turkey Hill EJ+	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department Conservation Commission	Town: n/a Contracted: n/a Volunteers: ALS	Conservation Passive recreation	Woodlands Invasive species	Earthen/social trail	-	Upland	No off-leash dogs	-
Uncle Sam Park & Monument EJ	Town of Arlington	Select Board	Town: DPW Parks Division mows, stripes & trash Contracted: n/a Volunteers: n/a	Historic/Cultural Civic	Specimen trees Open lawn Ornamental garden	Other: brick	-	-	No off-leash dogs	-
Veterans' Memorial Sports Complex, Buck & Robillard Fields EJ+	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	Town: DPW Parks Division mows, stripes & trash Contracted: turf treatment Volunteers: Friends group (?)	Passive recreation Active recreation	Woodlands Specimen trees Open lawn Natural turf sports field Clay sports field	Crushed granite/stonedust Other: bituminous	-	-	No off-leash dogs	-

Property	Ownership	Managed by	Maintenance	Current uses	Landscape types	Walkways/trails	Green infrastructure	Invasive plants	Dogs	Jurisdiction
Waldo Park & Playground EJ	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	Town: n/a Contracted: turf treatment; mowing, weeding, fall/spring clean-ups Volunteers: Friends group (?) Volunteers: n/a	Passive recreation	Specimen trees Open lawn Ornamental garden	Other: bituminous	-	-	No off-leash dogs	-
Wellington Park EJ+	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	Town: n/a Contracted: mowing, weeding, fall/spring clean-ups Volunteers: n/a	Passive recreation Active recreation Flood control	Woodlands Specimen trees Open lawn Invasive species Native/pollinator garden	Porous pave	Porous pavement Bio-swale/rain garden Other: constructed wetland	Upland	Limited off-leash hours	Arlington Conservation Commission MassDEP Waterways Regulatory Floodway
Whittemore Park at the Jefferson Cutter House EJ+	Town of Arlington	Select Board	Town: trash only Contracted: n/a Volunteers: n/a	Passive recreation Historic/Cultural	Specimen trees Open lawn Invasive species Ornamental garden	Other: exposed aggregate concrete & brick	-	Upland	No off-leash dogs	Arlington Historic Commission
Window-on-the-Mystic	Town of Arlington	Conservation Commission	Town: n/a Contracted: n/a Volunteers: ALS	Conservation Passive recreation	Woodlands Invasive species	Earthen/social trail	-	Upland	No off-leash dogs	Arlington Conservation Commission Regulatory Floodway

Existing maintenance & management practices

The Department of Public Works Parks Division focuses on the maintenance of the Town's various parks and fields. Efforts are focused on mowing and striping fields, as well as trash removal, irrigation repairs, and edging of clay infields as required.

PARKS & PLAYING FIELDS

The Parks Division has a two-person crew for mowing and a two-person crew for string trimming. In season, these crews rotate through the properties weekly starting at the east end of Town and ending with Hurd Field. Weather events will impact this schedule significantly. These crews are also responsible mowing at the municipal parking lot and the parking lot at the Reservoir. However, because of the high demand of the playing fields in town and the limited crew, delays in the schedule mean that the parking lots may not be mowed as frequently as preferred.

The Parks Division is also responsible for striping and small irrigation repairs on the fields, as well as maintaining clay and the sod cutting of the infields for ball fields. There is additionally a one-person crew who handles trash for the same facilities.

TREES IN PUBLIC LANDS

DPW's Tree Division staff include the Tree Warden, a supervisor, a working foreman, and two tree climbers. Equipment includes a truck, a boom lift, chipper trucks, and a one-ton dump truck. The Tree Warden undertakes regular assessments of the public trees—which include numerous street trees. The public has the ability to notify Public Works when they have identified an issue. The tree crew responds to 80% of the reported issues. The rest is delegated to an on-call contractor. Most tree removals are contracted out, while tree replacements are completed by the Tree Division.

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

For invasive plant species management, Public Works responds to public nuisance complaints, mainly for poison ivy as it impacts public use. Invasive plant species management is typically a labor-intensive task and herbicide use must be permitted in conservation jurisdictional areas.

The Conservation Commission coordinates contracts for terrestrial invasive management, such as at Spy Pond Park, and supports volunteer efforts like the Land Stewards.

WATER BODIES

For the Town's water bodies, Public Works is responsible for managing the water level of the Reservoir at the direction and approval of the Conservation Commission and with guidance from the Recreation Department (for beach season). The State manages the water level of Spy Pond, and typically only for copper sulfate/aquatic invasive treatment.

Also at the Reservoir, the Conservation Commission executes the contract for the water chestnut harvesting and Public Works coordinates with the contractor to bring the collection from the harvester to the spillway to dry and then disposes of them.

TRAIL SURFACES

Trail surfaces are addressed by Public Works on a case by case basis, such as in the event that there is a washout after a heavy storm event.

PLOWING & SNOW REMOVAL

Public Works is responsible for plowing all parking lots and sidewalks adjacent to green spaces. These are a priority

Existing maintenance & management practices (continued)

after snow events. These spaces are plowed in real time—i.e., during the event, and not just after it has ended. As a major transportation corridor, the Minuteman Bikeway must also be plowed during snow events.

CONSERVATION LAND

The Department of Public Works does not conduct regular maintenance on the lands under the purview of the Conservation Commission. Maintenance that is undertaken on conservation land is carried out by volunteers.

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

The School Department has its own Facilities staff who maintain the grounds at the schools. Playing fields under the managing ownership of the Recreation Department are considered separately.

CONTRACTED WORK

A series of contracts are put out every 3 years for maintenance activities on public lands.

Mowing and lawn maintenance for a selection of public lands (typically a total of 12 sites, identified within the site specific discussion). This includes:

- Spring (mid-April) and fall (mid-November) cleanup: removal of all leaves, trash, and debris
 - Weekly mowing from April through July, including trimming around trees, shrubs, curbs, fences, buildings, etc.
 - Bi-weekly mowing August through October
1. Mowing and lawn maintenance at Mount Pleasant Cemetery. This includes:

- Spring and fall cleanup
- Weekly mowing & trimming from April through November (28 cuts)
- Pruning of shrubs and bushes twice per year

2. Turf treatment at a selection of playing fields and Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

Playing field turf treatment includes:

- Core aeration, 3 times per year: 3/4 of an inch tines, 4 inches deep, 6-inch by 6-inch pattern, (worn areas aerated twice)
- Slice/seed, 2 times per year: in two to three directions at 250 pounds of seed per acre, using a 60:40 mixture of improved varieties of perennial ryegrass and Kentucky bluegrass
- Over-seeding, 2 times per year: over-seed/broadcast seed on wear areas of each field at 200 pounds of seed per acre, using a 60:40 mixture of improved varieties of perennial ryegrass and Kentucky bluegrass
- Fertilizer application, 4 times per year:
 - Apply 19-19-19 starter fertilizer at 1 pound nitrogen per 1,000 square feet
 - Apply fertilizer at 1 pound nitrogen/1,000 square feet, 40% CRN (controlled-release nitrogen)
 - Apply fertilizer at 1 pound nitrogen/1,000 square feet, with 50% CRN
 - Apply fertilizer at 1.0 pound nitrogen, 2 square feet potassium per 1,000 SF
- Soil testing, 2 times per year: Obtain composite soil tests from each field. Submit samples for analysis to

Existing maintenance & management practices (continued)

UMass Soils Laboratory.

- Deep-tine aeration: Deep-tine aerate entire field at 6-inch to 10-inch depth, 3/4 of an inch tines at 5-inch spacing
4. Mount Pleasant Cemetery turf treatment includes:
- Fertilizer application, 3 times per year:
 - Apply 19-19-19 starter fertilizer at 1 pound nitrogen per 1,000 square feet
 - Apply fertilizer at 1 pound nitrogen/1,000 square feet, 40% CRN (controlled-release nitrogen)
 - Apply fertilizer at 1.0 pound nitrogen, 2 pound potassium per 1,000 square feet
 - Soil testing, 2 times per year: Obtain composite soil tests. Submit samples for analysis to UMass Soils Laboratory.
5. Mowing and lawn maintenance at the Town Hall, Library, Whittemore Robbins House, and the Historic Burying Ground ("Old Cemetery"). This includes:
- Spring (end of March) and fall (mid-December) cleanup: removal of all leaves, trash, and debris on lawn areas
 - Weekly mowing from April through October (22 times)
 - Lawn areas to be maintained at a minimum height of 2-1/2 inches in spring at first mow, then a maximum height of 3 inches during April and May, 3-1/2 inches during July and August, and 3 inches in September and October
 - Lawn clippings to be left and raked out
 - Lawn at Town Hall, Library, and Whittemore Robbins House to be fertilized with organic fertilizer three times per year: May 1, July 30, and September 30
 - Trimming around trees, shrubs, curbs, fences, buildings, etc. from April through October (22 times)
6. Invasive plant management and monitoring at Spy Pond Park
- Identification, manual removal, and disposal of all existing invasive plant species
 - Select herbicide application treatment, as necessary
 - Treatment four times per year: late spring, early summer, late summer, and early fall
7. Treatment of Emerald Ash Borer
- Treatment (trunk injection) of 6,000 caliper inches of ash trees in Town

The properties included in the contracts for mowing and lawn maintenance in public lands and turf treatment of playing fields are noted in the discussion of each location.

VOLUNTEER EFFORTS

Numerous resident groups contribute to land management activities, ranging from gardening to environmental monitoring. Friends groups exist for Arlington Reservoir, Arlington's Great Meadows, Crusher Lot, Magnolia Park, Menotomy Rocks Park, Robbins Farm Park, Spy Pond Park, and Waldo Park. Most work in this vein is focused on the health of the local ecology. Wildlife gardens are tended at Arlington Reservoir by volunteers, the water quality at Hills Pond in Menotomy Rocks Park is monitored and improved by the Friends group, and shoreline planting beds are maintained at Spy Pond Park by the Friends group there. These groups and interested individuals sponsor events like the annual Spy Pond Trails Day, when volunteers remove litter and

Existing maintenance & management practices (continued)

invasive species and conduct trail maintenance.

The Conservation Commission's Land Stewards program has centered on clean up activities and monitoring on Town-owned conservation parcels. Land Stewards take an active role in the protection of public land and have tended 28 different sites over the years. These locations are mostly small conservation parcels. While the Land Stewards have mostly focused on litter and vandalism, some volunteers have assumed responsibility for trail maintenance, erosion control, and planting projects.

Volunteers manage invasive species with Town support. The Department of Planning and Community Development works in step with the Arlington Conservation Commission to coordinate and fund invasive removal work. The Department of Public Works facilitates these volunteer projects by picking up and disposing of debris. The Recreation Department authorizes work on the properties where these volunteers most frequently work. Other Town entities are consulted according to the ownership and management responsibilities for each site.

FUNDING SOURCES & THEIR IMPACTS ON PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT

Funding is discussed Section 3 to understand how outside funding sources and grants impact the long-term management of open space in the Town of Arlington. Generally, the use of these funding sources requires that the parcel be maintained accessible and available to the general public.

The most significant grants used historically in the Town of Arlington include the following:

- Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) grant (formerly known as the Urban Self-Help Grant)

- Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)
- Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)
- Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Action Grant
- Community Preservation Act (CPA)

WETLAND RESOURCES

Jurisdictional wetlands have been noted under Natural Resources within the narrative for each property. The delineation of these resources is derived from the MassGIS Geospatial Data and denotes the following wetland resources. The delineation of wetland resource areas and other jurisdictional designations are determined by the Conservation Commission.

Analysis of responsible entities

BY LANDSCAPE TYPE

Different Town entities are responsible for management of a variety of the landscape types identified. Landscape type does not correspond to the management entity.

Cemetery Commission

- Cemetery
- Passive recreation

Conservation Commission

- Conservation
- Flood control
- Passive recreation

Recreation Department

- Active recreation
- Conservation
- Education
- Flood control
- Historic/cultural
- Passive recreation

Office of the Town Manager

- Civic
- Historic/cultural
- Passive recreation

School Department

- Active recreation
- Education

Select Board

- Civic
- Conservation
- Historic/cultural
- Passive recreation

BY MANAGED PROPERTY

The vast majority of the properties included in this plan are managed by the Recreation Department and the Conservation Commission.

Recreation Department

- Arlington Reservoir
- Bishop Elementary School Field
- Buzzell Fields
- Crusher Lot
- Florence Field at the Dallin Elementary School
- Hill's Hill
- Hurd Field
- Magnolia Park & Field
- McClennen Park
- Menotomy Rocks Park
- North Union Park & Lussiano Field

Analysis of responsible entities (continued)

- Parallel Park
- Park Circle Water Tower
- Pheasant Avenue Park/Greeley Playground
- Poet's Corner
- Robbins Farm Park
- Thorndike Field
- Turkey Hill*
- Veteran's Memorial Sports Complex & Buck Field
- Waldo Park & Playground
- Wellington Park

Conservation Commission

- Cooke's Hollow
- Meadowbrook Park
- Mount Gilboa
- Turkey Hill*
- Window-on-the-Mystic
- Small conservation parcels

Select Board

- Arlington's Great Meadows
- Uncle Sam Park & Monument
- Whittemore Park at the Jefferson Cutter House

Office of the Town Manager

- Town Hall Civic Block

Cemetery Commission

- Mount Pleasant Cemetery
- Old Burying Ground

School Department

- Ottoson Middle School

Large public lands

1. Arlington Reservoir
2. Arlington's Great Meadows
3. Cooke's Hollow
4. Crusher Lot
5. Hill's Hill
6. Meadowbrook Park
7. Menotomy Rocks Park
8. Mount Gilboa
9. Turkey Hill
10. Window-on-the-Mystic

General notes

Large public lands are mature landscapes that make up the largest area of open space in the town of Arlington. Most of these parcels feature woodlands that have a diverse range of species, have relatively low invasive plant material, feature pathways (formal and informal), and have limited site amenities. These parcels are essential to outdoor recreation and act as a critical component for local and migratory wildlife and the ecosystems within Arlington.

.

LARGE PUBLIC LANDS

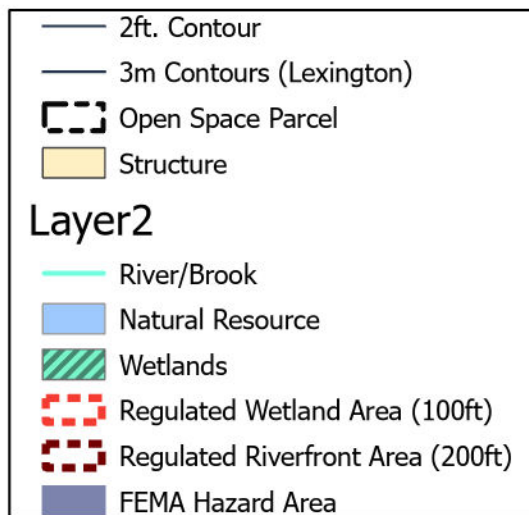




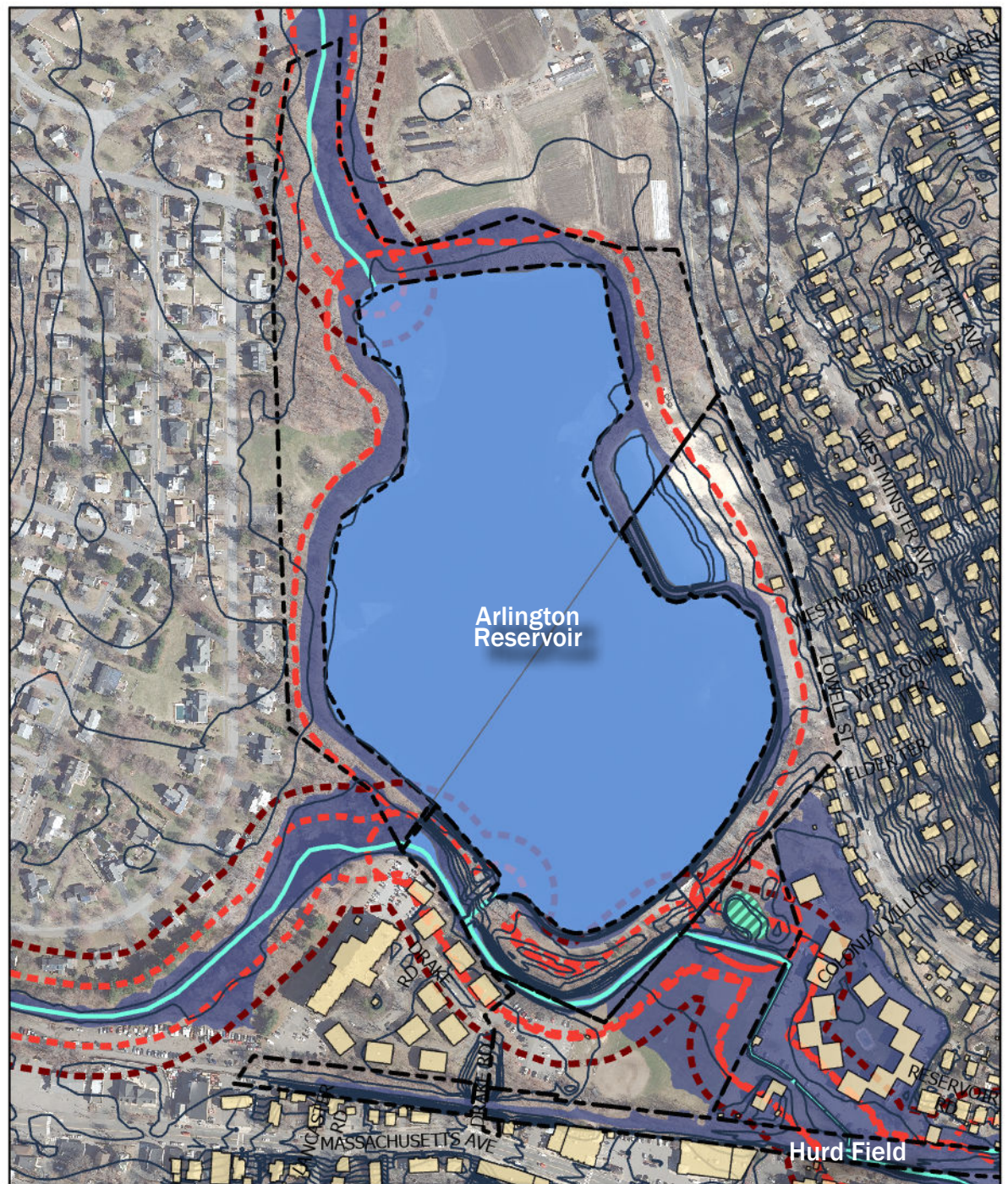
0 205 410 820 Feet



ARLINGTON RESERVOIR EXISTING CONDITIONS



0 205 410 820 Feet



ARLINGTON RESERVOIR JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS

Arlington Reservoir

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: 210 Lowell Street PARCEL ID(s): 61-1-4; Lexington: 20-37-1992 ACREAGE: 36.61 in total (21.24 acres in Arlington & 14.37 in Lexington plus the water body)

OWNER: Town of Arlington MANAGER: Recreation Department MAINTENANCE: Recreation Department, Contracted

JURISDICTION: Arlington Conservation Commission, Lexington Conservation Commission, MassDEP Office of Dam Safety, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

CURRENT USES

- ☒ Conservation
- ☒ Passive Recreation
- ☐ Active Recreation
- ☒ Flood Control
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☐ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☒ Woodlands
- ☒ Specimen trees
- ☒ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☒ Ornamental garden
- ☒ Native/pollinator garden
- ☐ Sports field:
 - ☐ Natural turf
 - ☐ Clay
- ☒ Irrigation: ☒ Broadcast ☒ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☒ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☒ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☒ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☒ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☐ Other

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☒ Porous pavement (parking and trails)
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☒ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Upland
- ☒ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☒ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☒ Other: dumpster at picnic pavilion; by Recreation Department

DOG RULES

- ☐ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☒ Limited off-leash hours: 6 AM to 9 AM, excluding summer months (June-August) when the beach is open

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☒ Located in an EJ area
- ☒ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Arlington Reservoir (continued)

General:

- The property is located in both Arlington and Lexington and wraps the water body that is the Reservoir.
- The Town of Lexington's Assessor's database lists Inhabitants of Arlington as the property owner on the property record card.
- Department of Public Works has primary responsibility for maintenance, Recreation manages the swimming beach.
- The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, Office of Dam Safety, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (among other agencies) establish and monitor regulations for the dam itself.

Protection status:

- The parcel is protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).
- The portion of the Reservoir in Arlington is zoned as open space.
- The parcel is zoned in Lexington as RO (one-family residential dwelling).
- Portions of the parcel are included in both the Inland Wetland District and the Floodplain District.
- Funds/grants used to support recent projects include Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), and the Community Preservation Act (CPA), a MassTrails Grant (offered by Massachusetts Department of Conservation & Recreation, Massachusetts Department of Transportation, and the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs)

Activities:

- Year-round use of perimeter walking trail
- Seasonal use of swimming area with accessible beach mat and sand/water play components on the beach
- Very popular birding location
- Wildlife habitat garden
- Multi-sport court (permeable)
- Accessible play area
- Picnic pavilion
- Viewing/fishing overlook
- Bath house/concession building and filtration building
- Spillways and dam
- Site amenities: Benches, bike racks, signs, picnic tables,
- Parking: Off-street parking includes 63 porous parking spaces (54 for beach and 9 trailhead) plus 1 at picnic pavilion

Natural resources:

- Jurisdictional wetlands:
 - Regulated Wetland Area
 - Riverfront Area
 - Floodplain
 - Regulatory Floodway
- Freshwater water body (reservoir) fed by Munroe Brook
- Mill Brook flows out of the Reservoir and flows to the east
- Lexington storm drains send water directly into water body

Cultural resources: n/a

Arlington Reservoir (continued)

Site history:

- From the 2008 Arlington Open Space Management Plan: *The Res was used as a town water supply from the early 1870s until Arlington joined the Metropolitan Water District (now known as the MWRA) in 1899. For years, the Res served as a popular summer swimming hole, and in 1935 the Arlington Board of Park Commissioners (now known as the Park & Recreation Commission—PRC) engaged the Works Progress Administration (WPA) to develop a sandy beach on the northeastern shore. The town improved the beach in the early 1980s, adding filters, a chlorination system, and an embankment to separate the swimming area from the rest of the reservoir.*
- From the 2008 Arlington Open Space Management Plan: *Dam repair and landscape remediation: The construction activity began in June 2005, and the dam repair and construction clean up was substantially completed by November 2005. Landscape remediation began in the spring of 2006 and was completed in 2008. Town funds were available for major landscape work and tree replacement, but volunteer work projects and private donations are helping to implement some continuing improvements, such as an educational “habitat garden”.*
- 2011: Wildlife Habitat Garden was established
- 2020: The filtration building & water system underwent a renovation.
- 2022: The Town undertook a major renovation of the entire park property which included improvements to the beach, the perimeter trail, new trail spurs, removal of invasive species and revegetation, new porous pavement parking lot, picnic pavilion, and new signage.

Site rules:

- The Town of Arlington has established rules for the Reservoir Beach. They are as follows:
 - Reservoir Beach is operated from June through August. Beach Hours are daily from 10 AM to 7 PM (subject to change).
 - Reservoir Beach is not monitored for bacteria outside the dates of operation.
 - All persons using the beach area must display a beach tag or a daily pass. Tags are not required for children under one year of age. Daily guest passes and tags are available at the gate.
 - All patrons are encouraged to shower before entering the swimming area.
 - Parents are responsible for the safety and supervision of their children. No children under 12 years of age should attend the beach without adult supervision.
 - No one is allowed on the rocks or aerator or at any time.
 - Chairs are not allowed in the water at any time.
 - Inflatable floating devices of any kind are not allowed in the water. The public is not allowed to use snorkels, masks or skin diving apparatus. U.S. Coast Guard Certified Life Jackets are allowed.
 - Cookouts and glass containers of any kind are not allowed on/in the beach area without first receiving a permit from the Arlington Recreation Department.
 - Patrons shall not to feed any waterfowl. This is a Town by-law.

Arlington Reservoir (continued)

- The following are prohibited:
 - Horseplay, Rough Play or Sand/Rock Throwing
 - Pets or Fishing in the Swim Area
- Beach patrons shall be appropriately clothed at all times.
- Any persons under the influence of alcohol or drugs is prohibited from the beach area.
- Children in diapers must wear appropriate swim diapers.
- Safety checks will take place throughout the day where all patrons will be asked to vacate the water.
- Emergency Phone & First Aid Kit is located at the Beach Check In Area.

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2022-2029 *Open Space and Recreation Plan* (OSRP), Section 5
- 2018 *Arlington Reservoir Master Plan*
- 2020 *Aquatic Plant Survey and Management Plan*
- *Arlington Open Space Management Plan*, November 2008
- Arlington Conservation Commission (DEP #091-0327) and Lexington Conservation Commission Order of Conditions (DEP #201-1024) for the 2021 landscape improvement project

Other notes:

- Recent improvements (2021-2022) included new trails, invasive management, woodland management & amenities.

- As part of the recent site improvements to the Res and its trails, woodlands were pruned along trails, but not deeper wood areas
- The 2021-22 improvement project restored 4 areas of bank along the Reservoir that most critically were in need of restoration.
- Invasive upland plants present, as well as invasive aquatic plants and invasive terrestrial plants along shoreline

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- The Recreation Department manages the seasonal opening and closing of the beach operation and mows the lawn during beach season. The beach staff submits an annual Beach Manager's Report to the Recreation Department, noting issues and improvements needed in the future.
- The Recreation Department also hires a crew during the beach season. In addition to attending the gates/sales of passes, they are also responsible for grooming the sand, removing trash, and mowing within the beach area.
- Public Works mows the lawn around the parking (approximately 2 to 3 times per year), collects trash, and handles basic grounds maintenance during the season, and as the schedule allows and as needed at other times of the year.
- With regular testing, the Board of Health monitors water quality standards and announces beach closings, if necessary.
- Public Works also controls the water level via the floodgate, especially in anticipation of and during heavy storms and in coordination with the Conservation Commission. Public

Arlington Reservoir (continued)

Works also lowers the water level in the fall after beach season and raises it in the spring, before beach season (the berm around the beach is permeable, so the water level is kept high throughout the summer).

Contracts, current & previous:

- Aquatic weed harvesting undertaken annually for water chestnut
- Porous parking lot under contract to be vacuumed 4 times per year.
- Starting fall 2022, mowing within the beach area will be contracted out

Volunteer activities:

- Friends group: Arlington Reservoir Committee stemmed from the Vision 2020 Environmental Task Force (1999) in response to state concerns about dam safety and the threat of tree removals proposed for reconstruction of the dam.
- The following Arlington Reservoir Goals related to uses and management in general were developed by the Vision 2020 Reservoir Committee and approved by Town Meeting in Spring 2002:
 - Water Quality: To attain and maintain, in an ecologically sensitive manner, the appropriate water quality standard
 - Water Management: To manage the Reservoir and its drainage to minimize downstream flooding, support wildlife habitat, and allow recreational uses;
 - Flora and Fauna: To protect and enhance the health and diversity of native plants and wildlife consistent

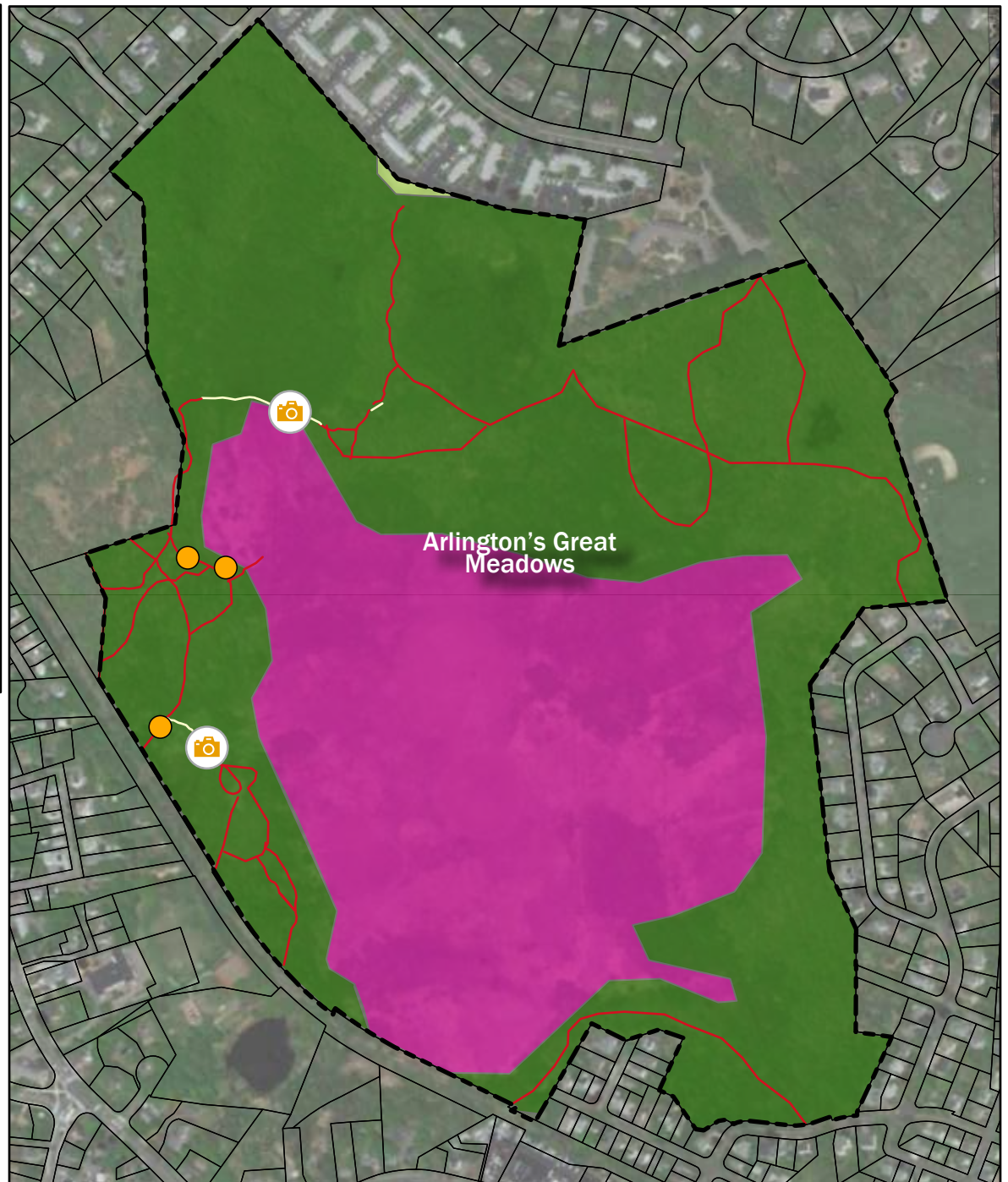
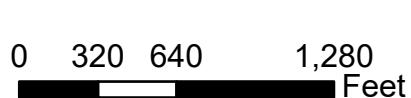
with protecting public safety and recreational uses;

- Public Use and Open Space: To promote and enhance public access for passive and active recreational uses while maintaining and protecting the unique natural setting of the Reservoir
- Public Awareness: To enhance awareness of the ecological, economic, recreational, and aesthetic values of the Arlington Reservoir and its setting.
- <https://arlingtonreservoir.org/>
- Arlington Reservoir Committee meets monthly and has been maintaining the each Wildlife Habitat Garden growing season since it was established in 2011.
- Arlington Reservoir Committee hosted Returned Peace Corps Volunteers in October 2021: cleared grasses and planted natives, picked up trash; these occur many times throughout the year.



(top) Water chestnuts in the Reservoir
(bottom) Reconstructed emergent banks

(top) Stabilized crushed granite trail & porous pavement parking
(bottom) Woodlands after removal of the invasive shrub layer

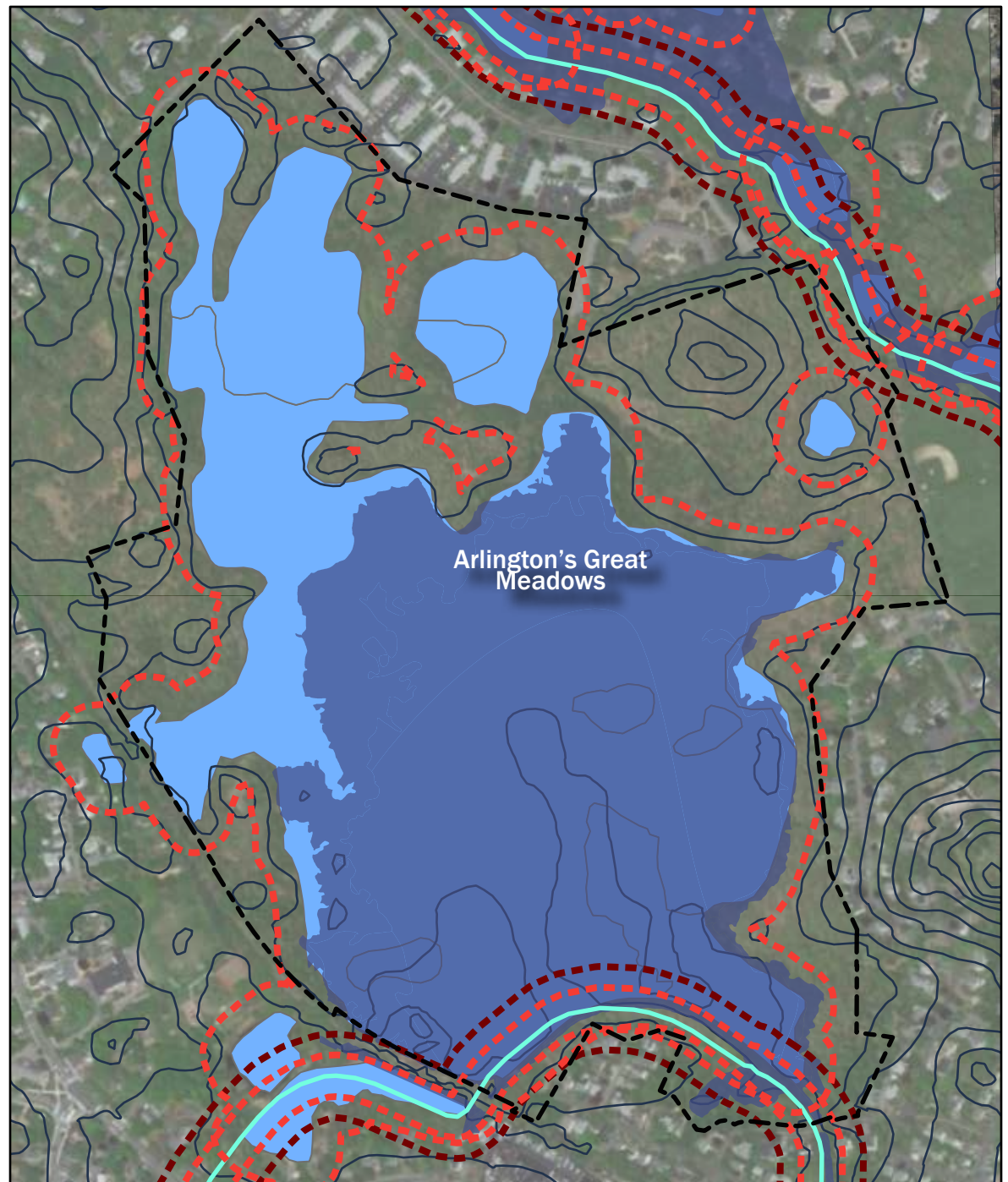


ARLINGTON'S GREAT MEADOWS

EXISTING CONDITIONS

- 3m Contours
- - - Open Space Parcel
- Structure
- River/Brook
- Natural Resource
- Wetlands
- Regulated Wetland Area (100ft)
- Regulated Riverfront Area (200ft)
- FEMA Hazard Area

0 320 640 1,280
Feet



ARLINGTON'S GREAT MEADOWS JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS

Arlington's Great Meadows

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: Off Maple Street, Lexington

PARCEL ID(s): Lexington: 30-114-3411

ACREAGE: 183.3

OWNER: Town of Arlington

MANAGER: Select Board

MAINTENANCE: Contracted (through FoAGM)

JURISDICTION: Lexington Conservation Commission

CURRENT USES

- ☒ Conservation
- ☒ Passive Recreation
- ☐ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☒ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☒ Woodlands
- ☐ Specimen trees
- ☐ Open lawn
- ☒ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☐ Sports field:
 - ☐ Natural turf
 - ☐ Clay
 - ☐ Irrigation: ☐ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☒ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☐ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☒ Other: boardwalk

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE:

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☐ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☐ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☒ Limited off-leash hours: Dogs allowed in part of AGM

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☐ Located in an EJ area
- ☐ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Arlington's Great Meadows (continued)

General:

- Arlington's Great Meadows is located within the Town of Lexington approximately one-half mile from the town boundary. It is bordered to the northwest by Maple Street, and generally between Massachusetts Avenue and Lowell Street. To the southwest by the Minuteman Bikeway and Lexington Christian Academy is located to the east.
- Arlington's Great Meadows directly abuts two of Lexington's Lands: Joy Miller Meadows and Orchard Lane.
- The Town of Lexington's Assessor's database lists the Arlington Department of Public Works as the property owner on the property record card.

Protection status:

- The parcel is protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).
- The parcel is zoned in Lexington as GC: government/civic.
- The wetlands are protected per Town of Lexington Zoning By-laws as a Wetland Protection District.
- Funds/grants used to support recent projects include the Urban Self-Help Grant, now known as the Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) grant

Activities:

- Undeveloped wetlands and natural open space
- Walking & biking trails on uplands and boardwalks
- Core is flat, marshy meadow surrounded by wooded uplands crisscrossed by trails
- Bird watching, hiking, cross-country skiing, dog walking, and berry picking

- 2 nearby schools often use Great Meadows as an outdoor classroom
- Both the Waldorf School and the Lexington Christian Academy have used Arlington's Great Meadows for their activities.
- FoAGM and Arlington Community Education and Citizens for Lexington Conservation have sponsored nature walks
- Adjacent to Minuteman Bikeway
- Walking entrances from several streets in Lexington
- Site amenities: sign/trail kiosks and two boardwalks constructed in 2005 to cross wetland areas
- Parking: parking at the end of Lily Pond Lane (public) and on neighboring streets and in the lot behind the Waldorf School

Natural resources:

- Jurisdictional wetlands:
 - Certified Vernal Pool (1)
 - Potential Vernal Pool (2)
 - Regulated Wetland
 - Floodplain (with 1% and 2% Annual Chance of Flood)
 - Regulatory Floodway
- The majority of the site is certified vegetated wetland and flood plain
- Both Mill and Sickie Brooks run through Great Meadows. Munroe Brook runs adjacent to the property. Hydrologically, it is directly connected to the Reservoir and is the water source for both Mill Brook and the Reservoir.

Arlington's Great Meadows (continued)

- From the 2009 Open Space Management Plan: *The varied topography, created by the glaciers, includes kame terraces, outwash plains, and the extensive kettlehole that form Great Meadows. Due in part to the unusual juxtaposition of geological features, Great Meadows supports regionally unusual natural plant communities: marsh, vernal pool, oak woodland, and successional grassland. The largest area in the center of the parcel is best characterized as a shallow emergent marsh. Eight community types provide habitat for 56 identified species of breeding birds, 12 species of amphibians and reptiles, and 251 species of plants. Several of these species are unusual, if not rare, and many more are common "watchable" wildlife species that people enjoy seeing and learning about. In addition, over the last 30 years, several reports highlight Great Meadows' natural resource services, including water supply protection, flood control, and wildlife habitat. Lying within the Mystic River Watershed, Great Meadows buffers portions of Sickle Brook and Munroe Brook and reduces flooding of the Arlington Reservoir and Mill Brook downstream.*

Cultural resources:

- From the 2009 Open Space Management Plan: *Stonewalls, cart paths, open fields, and extensive vistas are reminiscent of the historic Massachusetts landscape.*

Site history:

- From the 2009 Open Space Management Plan: *In 1871, Arlington purchased the Great Meadows and flooded it for use as a water supply storage area. Families used the resulting lake for boating and recreation. The famous naturalist William Brewster visited the reservoir during those*

years. He recorded numbers of shorebirds and waterbirds such as snipe, sandpipers, rails, herons, bitterns, coots, and various ducks. In 1899, Arlington joined the Metropolitan District Commission and Great Meadows was no longer needed as a water supply. It was drained in 1902, leaving today's wet marshes.

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2022-2029 Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP), Section 5
- Arlington Open Space Management Plan, October 2009
- Natural Resource Inventory & Stewardship Plan of Arlington's Great Meadows, July 2001
- "Recommendations for Restoration of Meadow Habitat," Jeffrey Collins of Mass Audubon, May 2009

Other notes:

- The central core of the conservation area is wetland which is left undisturbed.
- Invasive plants, include Japanese Knotweed, garlic mustard, phragmites, bittersweet; purple loosestrife is also present but generally kept in check by a bio-control (an introduced beetle)
- Old-field succession of upland meadows
- Woodlands flank the outer edges of the meadow area. Multiple areas on inlet water sources.
- Woodlands are a stark contrast to those of Menotomy Rocks. Shrubby underbrush that is very dense, with few large mature trees and more invasives in areas.

Arlington's Great Meadows (continued)

- From the 2009 Open Space Management Plan: *Great Meadows is a significant green space surrounded by two schools, condominiums, and single-family homes. It is bordered by the highly popular Minuteman Commuter Bikeway. Great Meadows is adjacent to conservation land owned by Lexington, and serves as de facto conservation land for the immediate neighborhood and the region as a whole.*

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- No maintenance undertaken by Arlington DPW; no formal maintenance schedule exists.
- The Town of Lexington mows at the Great Meadows at Arlington's discretion.

Contracts, current & previous:

- A small area of upland meadow is mowed in the fall by a contractor hired by the Friends of Arlington's Great Meadows.

Volunteer activities:

- Generally, annual pruning by volunteers is done along major trails, along with control of some invasive plants. A recent project worked to eliminate a patch of Japanese knotweed along the Bikeway near Brandon Street.
- Friends group: Friends of Arlington's Great Meadows (FoAGM) was established 2002 and includes both Arlington and Lexington residents. They exercise stewardship responsibilities with the Select Board's permission.

- The Friends group arranges for the mowing of a created upland meadow area.
- FoAGM volunteers work with the Lexington Conservation Commission and the Citizens for Lexington Conservation (CLC) in maintaining the area for passive recreational use. The funding is through essentially private donations managed by the Arlington Land Trust.
- Two boardwalks over marshy areas were constructed in 2005 and are maintained by FoAGM. The original construction was supported by a state Recreational Trails grant and the maintenance from private contributions.
- *The group conducts surveys of plants & animals, birdwatching & geology walks, visitor support facilities. They built the boardwalks on site and coordinated with MassAudubon to conduct controlled clearing of upland meadow to provide more open habitat.*
- The Annual Report for the Friends group in 2021 lists the following activities: working with Arlington High School students to remove invasive vegetation; trail and kiosk maintenance; working with local Boy Scouts (Arlington Troop 313) to replace boards on the boardwalks; annual mowing of the upland meadows; and, routine invasive plant management.
- Additional information is provided on their website: www.foagm.org



(top) Boardwalk through a wetland area at Great Meadows

(bottom) Trailhead signage

(top) Stand of successional trees at Great Meadows

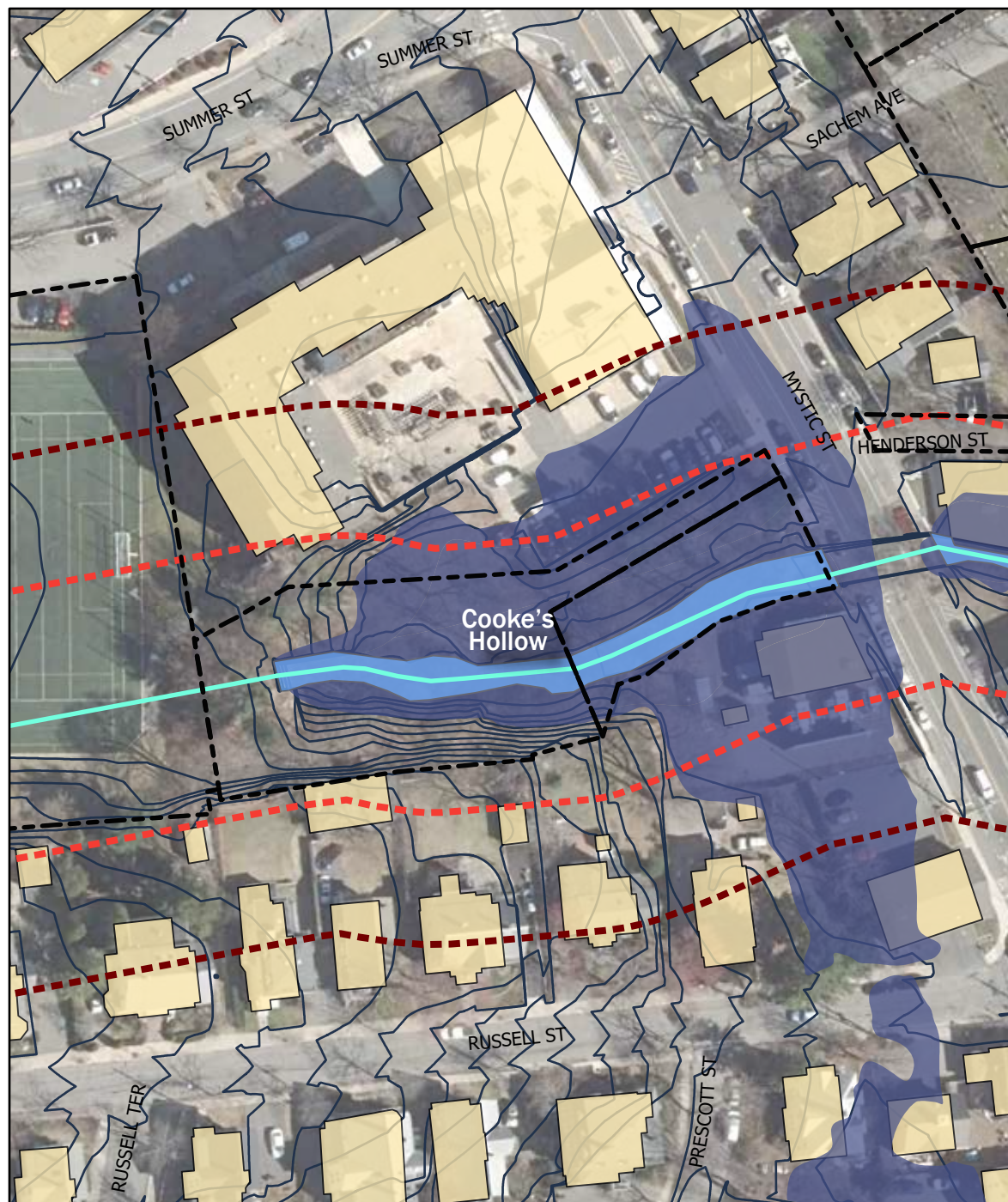
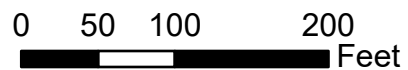
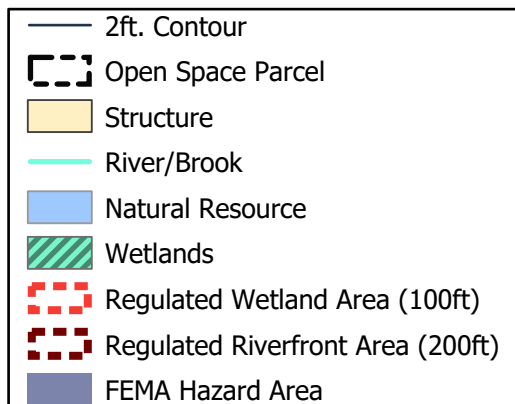
(bottom) Wooded buffer that delineates the Minuteman Bikeway & Great Meadows



0 50 100 200
Feet



COOKE'S HOLLOW EXISTING CONDITIONS



Cooke's Hollow

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: 94 Mystic Street

PARCEL ID(s): 63-4-4.A and 63-4-5.B

ACREAGE: 0.75

OWNER: Town of Arlington

MANAGER: Conservation Commission

MAINTENANCE: Contracted

JURISDICTION: Arlington Conservation Commission, Mass DEP Waterways

CURRENT USES

- ☒ Conservation
- ☒ Passive Recreation
- ☐ Active Recreation
- ☒ Flood Control
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☐ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☒ Woodlands
- ☒ Specimen trees
- ☒ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☐ Sports field:
 - ☐ Natural turf
 - ☐ Clay
 - ☐ Irrigation: ☐ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☐ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☒ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☐ Other:

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☒ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☒ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☐ Limited off-leash hours

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☒ Located in an EJ area
- ☐ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Cooke's Hollow (continued)

General:

- These 2 parcels are accessed off Mystic Street with the Policed Department to its north. Mill Brook is daylighted in Cooke's Hollow and runs the length of the park.
- Arlington Stewardship Land Parcel #6
- In October 2022, the Town advertised requesting proposals for a feasibility study and preliminary design open space revitalization and climate adaptation intervention at Cooke's Hollow.

Protection status:

- The parcel is protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).
- The park is zoned as open space.
- Funds/grants used to support recent projects include the Community Preservation Act (CPA)
- Portions of the parcel are included in both the Inland Wetland District and the Floodplain District.

Activities:

- Historic park adjacent to Mill Brook and waterfall
- Small, natural open area with steep slopes on banks of brook
- Birdwatching
- Site amenities: benches, picnic tables, site lighting
- Parking: on-street parking only

Natural resources:

- Jurisdictional wetlands:
 - Regulated Wetland Area
 - Riverfront Area
 - Floodplain
- Regulatory Floodway
- Mill Brook runs the length of the park.
- The park includes the only waterfall in Arlington.
- Mill Brook runs underground (culverted) for approximately 30 feet from its western boundary and is daylighted from the remainder of the landscape.

Cultural resources:

- From the 2022-2029 *Open Space and Recreation Plan* (OSRP): *The area has deep historical and cultural roots dating back to the 1630s when Captain George Cooke built the first water-powered grist mill in Arlington (then Menotomy and part of Cambridge).*

Site history:

- 1969: town purchases the land

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2022-2029 *Open Space and Recreation Plan* (OSRP), Section 5

Other notes:

- In 2022, CPA funds were awarded for the Cooke's Hollow Restoration and Rehabilitation undertaken by the Department of Planning and Community Development.

Cooke's Hollow (continued)

The project will be used to hire a landscape architecture to “create a plan for preservation and revitalization of Cooke’s Hollow, an open space park along Mill Brook comprising two Town-owned parcels.”

- Erosion and invasive plants along stream bank: black locust, knotweed, bittersweet
- Guardrail above the waterfall is not stable; fencing issues

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- Trash pick-up only

Contracts, current & previous:

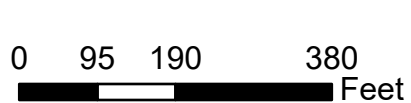
- Included in Mowing & Lawn Maintenance of Public Lands contract (current bid #20-16)

Volunteer activities:

- Arlington Land Stewards (ALS)
- ALS have removed invasive plant species and advocated for new benches and other amenities
- Arlington Garden Club helped landscape & provide public access



(top) Mill Brook running through Cooke's Hollow with channelization
(bottom) stonedust walkway & erosion control along the stream bank



CRUSHER LOT EXISTING CONDITIONS

Crusher Lot

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: Gray Street

PARCEL ID(s): 163-2-1.B

ACREAGE: 5.975

OWNER: Town of Arlington

MANAGER: Recreation Department

MAINTENANCE: Arlington Land Stewards

JURISDICTION: n/a

Current uses:

- ☒ Conservation
- ☒ Passive Recreation
- ☐ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☐ Education

Landscape types:

- ☒ Woodlands
- ☐ Specimen trees
- ☐ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☐ Sports field:
 - ☐ Natural turf
 - ☐ Clay
 - ☐ Irrigation: ☐ Broadcast ☐ Drip

Walkways/trails

- ☒ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☐ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☐ Other

Green infrastructure:

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

Invasive plant management

- ☒ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

Waste removal

- ☐ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

Dog rules:

- ☒ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☐ Limited off-leash hours

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☒ Located in an EJ area
- ☐ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Crusher Lot (continued)

General:

- This parcel is bounded by residences on Gray Street, Harvard Street, Oakland Avenue, Benjamin, Lehigh Street and the Ottoson Middle School to the north.
- Arlington Stewardship Land #26

Protection status:

- The parcel is protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).
- The property is zoned as open space.

Activities:

- Unimproved wooded lot with rough footpaths
- Site amenities: sign
- Parking: on-street parking only

Natural resources: n/a

Cultural resources: n/a

Site history:

- The Crusher Lot was the site of a former gravel pit with a steam-powered stone crusher which was used for the construction of Town streets.

Other notes:

- Minimal invasive plants
- Great mix of age, slightly crowded understory some younger generation.
- One area near corner near school ground has log debris; could be distributed better.

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- No maintenance undertaken by Arlington DPW

Contracts, current & previous: n/a

Volunteer activities:

- Arlington Land Stewards (ALS)
- Friends group: Friends of Crusher Lot/Ottoson Woods: *Community organization formed to promote the beautification, restoration, improvement and protection of the Crusher Lot (a.k.a. the West Woods or the Ottoson Woods) in Arlington Heights, Massachusetts. We aim to keep the woods clean, safe and natural. Our goal is to help maintain the woodland in its natural state and help keep it clean and safe for all.*
- Additional information can be found at the Friends' website: <https://friendsofthecrusher.org/>



(top) Trailhead and social trail in the Crusher Lot
(bottom) Typical woodland at the Crusher Lot



0 90 180 360 Feet



Hill's Hill

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: 422 Summer Street

PARCEL ID(s): 80-5-2.A

ACREAGE: 5.4

OWNER: Town of Arlington
(only), Contracted

MANAGER: Recreation Department

MAINTENANCE: Department of Public Works (field

JURISDICTION: n/a

CURRENT USES

- ☒ Conservation
- ☒ Passive Recreation
- ☒ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☐ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☒ Woodlands
- ☐ Specimen trees
- ☐ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☐ Sports field:
 - ☒ Natural turf
 - ☐ Clay
- ☒ Irrigation: ☒ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☒ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☐ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☒ Other: bituminous

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☐ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☒ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☐ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☒ Limited off-leash hours: 6:00 AM to 9:00 AM, and on the field, where the end at 8:30 AM on weekends from April-June and September-November 15th

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☒ Located in an EJ area
- ☐ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Hill's Hill (continued)

General:

- This parcel is bounded by residences on Washington Street to the south and the Minuteman Bikeway to the north. The Ed Burns Ice Arena & the Veterans' Memorial Sports Complex is directly to the west.
- Arlington Stewardship Land #27

Ownership & Management entity:

- Owned by the Town of Arlington
- Managed by the Recreation Department

Protection status:

- The parcel is protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).
- The park is zoned as open space.
- Funds/grants used to support recent projects include Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

Activities:

- Currently in planning phase for BMX trails through wooded area (2022) to include pump track and skills park
- Hilly wooded area with walking trails
- Open rectilinear field (irrigated) for various youth sports or activities
- Adjacent to Minuteman Bikeway
- Site amenities: n/a
- Parking: off-street at ice arena

Natural resources: n/a

Cultural resources: n/a

Site history: n/a

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- *Hill's Hill Mountain Biking Feasibility Study, 2022*

Other notes:

- Stunted growth, mostly throughout with no mature trees.

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- Parks Division of Public Works mows, stripes & maintains the field.

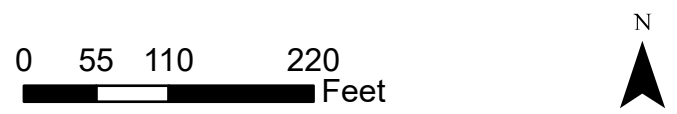
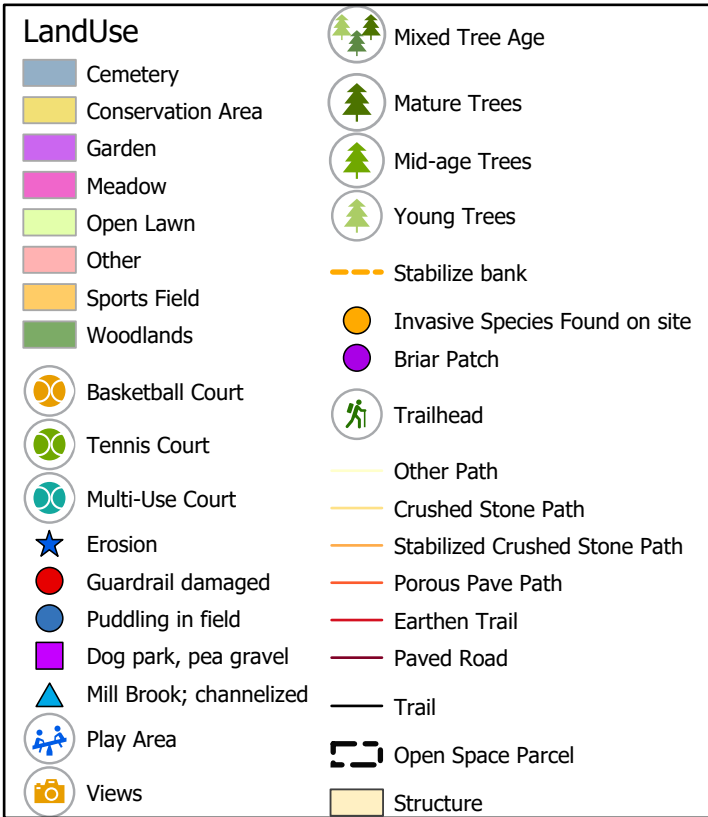
Contracts, current & previous: n/a

Volunteer activities:

- Arlington Land Stewards (ALS)
- Friends group: Summer Street Neighborhood Association—unclear if this group is still functioning

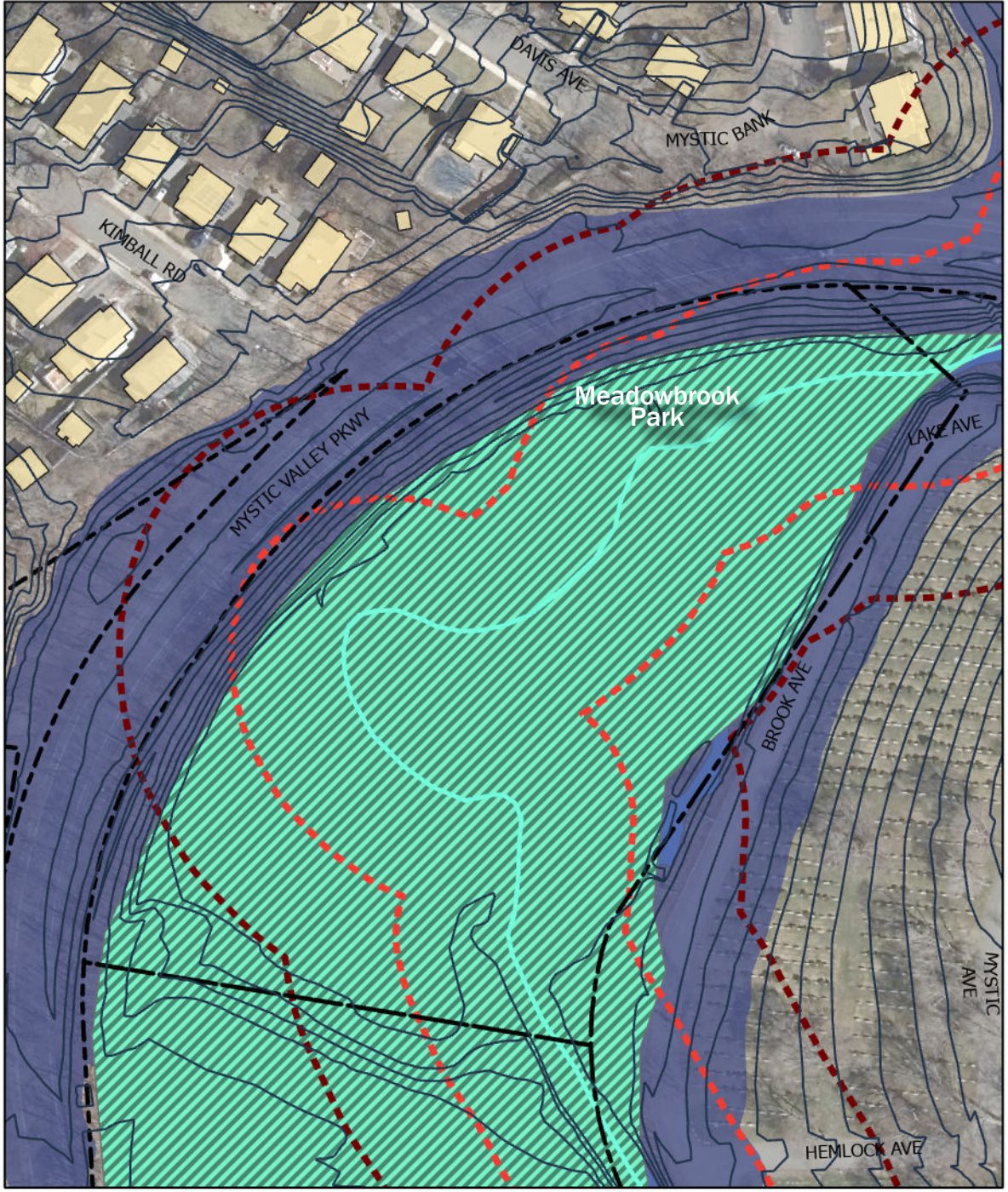
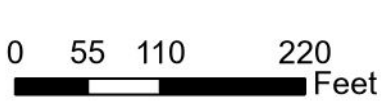


*(top) Clearing & social trails at Hill's Hill
(bottom) Field with new walkway at the field*



MEADOWBROOK PARK

EXISTING CONDITIONS



MEADOWBROOK PARK
JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS

Meadowbrook Park

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: Mystic Valley Parkway

PARCEL ID(s): 64-3-7

ACREAGE: 9.1

OWNER: Town of Arlington

MANAGER: Conservation Commission

MAINTENANCE: Arlington Land Stewards

JURISDICTION: Arlington Conservation Commission, MassDEP Waterways

CURRENT USES

- ☒ Conservation
- ☒ Passive Recreation
- ☐ Active Recreation
- ☒ Flood Control
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☐ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☒ Woodlands
- ☐ Specimen trees
- ☐ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☐ Sports field:
 - ☐ Natural turf
 - ☐ Clay
 - ☐ Irrigation: ☐ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☒ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☐ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☐ Other

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

Invasive plant management

- ☒ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

Waste removal

- ☐ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

Dog rules

- ☒ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☐ Limited off-leash hours

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☒ Located in an EJ area
- ☐ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Meadowbrook Park (continued)

General:

- The park is bounded by Mystic Valley Parkway to the northwest and the Mount Pleasant Cemetery to the east and south. Access to the property is from Mount Pleasant Cemetery.
- Arlington Stewardship Land Parcel #3

Protection status:

- The parcel is protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).
- The park is zoned as open space.
- Portions of the parcel are included in both the Inland Wetland District and the Floodplain District.
- Funds/grants used to support recent projects include Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

Activities:

- Wetlands area with limited rough walking trails
- Wildlife habitat
- Parking: parking in Mount Pleasant Cemetery

Natural resources:

- Jurisdictional wetlands:
 - Regulated Wetland Area
 - Riverfront Area
 - Floodplain
 - Regulatory Floodway
- Mouth of Mill Brook, outlets in Lower Mystic Lake
- Floodplain & mostly wetlands
- One of the most accessible and least developed areas of Mill Brook

- Spring herring run

Cultural resources:

- Park originally designed by Olmsted Brothers c. 1905, but it is unclear how much of the design was implemented.

Site history:

- From 2009 Open Space Management Plan: *The land was set aside as a park in 1896. In the mid-20th century this area was flooded and used for winter ice-skating.*
- Circa 1905, Park design prepared by Olmsted Brothers firm
- 2000: removal of phragmites
- 2001: planting of native upland & aquatic plants

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2022-2029 *Open Space and Recreation Plan* (OSRP), Section 5
- *Arlington Open Space Management Plan*, November 2009

Other notes:

- Invasive plants present toward brook bank and cemetery embankment, including phragmites, bittersweet & knotweed
- Flooding issue; from 2015-2022 *Open Space and Recreation Plan*: *Everything that goes into Mill Brook ends up in this park; including substantial magnitudes of floatable and semi-floatable objects and a huge load of street sand every spring. Area in between the cemetery and river has seasonal flooding with limited trees.*
- Woodland embankment along road with evidence of some washout/erosion in areas.

- Water quality questionable, oil slick observed in one area
- Trails: very wet & muddy with evidence of flooding

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- No maintenance undertaken by Town DPW
- Conservation Commission has in the past received grants for wetland restoration (bank stabilization & digging deep marsh)
- Infrastructure work, such as fencing and dam repairs, comes out of the Public Works budget.
- Some herbicides were used to control non-native invasive plants during the restoration efforts. Need to monitor and control encroaching invasive plants.

Contracts, current & previous: n/a

Volunteer activities:

- Arlington Land Stewards (ALS)
- Conservation Commission & Land Stewards organize annual cleanup
- Boy Scouts of America projects for visitor access with Conservation Commission's direction and approval.

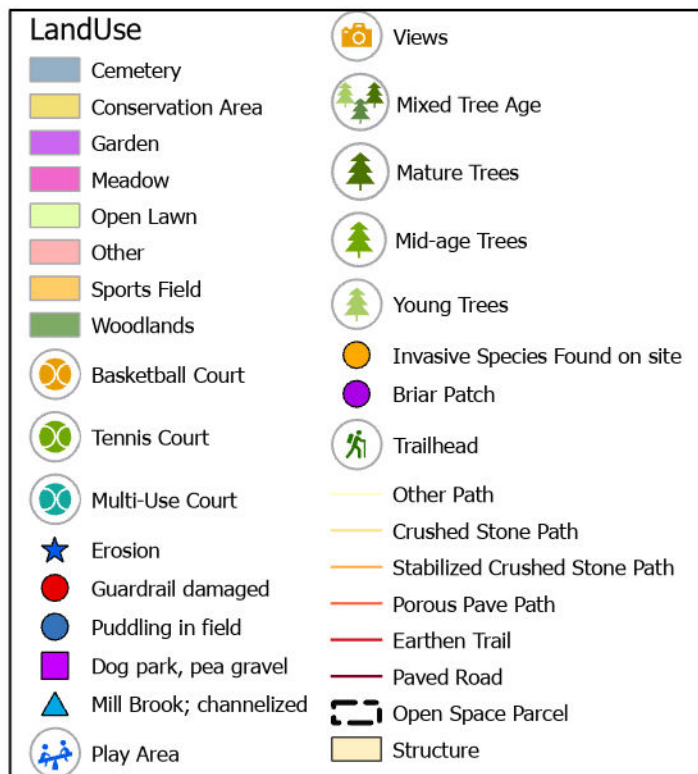


(top) Evidence of sedimentation & detritus in the brook
(bottom) Wildlife in the Mill Brook and its wetlands



(top) Mill Brook flowing through Meadowbrook Park

(bottom) Signage at Meadowbrook

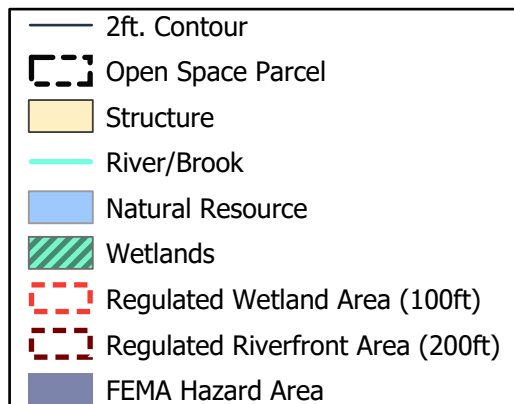


0 210 420 840 Feet



MENOTOMY ROCKS PARK

EXISTING CONDITIONS



0 210 420 840 Feet



MENOTOMY ROCKS PARK **JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS**

Menotomy Rocks Park

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: 129 Jason Street

PARCEL ID(s): 139-1-17.B & 139-1-18

ACREAGE: 45.33

OWNER: Town of Arlington

MANAGER: Recreation Department

MAINTENANCE: Contracted

JURISDICTION: Arlington Conservation Commission

CURRENT USES

- ☒ Conservation
- ☒ Passive Recreation
- ☐ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☐ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☒ Woodlands
- ☒ Specimen trees
- ☒ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☐ Sports field:
 - ☐ Natural turf
 - ☐ Clay
 - ☐ Irrigation: ☐ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☐ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☒ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☐ Other:

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☒ Other: floating islands

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Upland
- ☒ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☒ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☐ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☒ Limited off-leash hours: 6:00 AM to 9:00 AM, excluding woods

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☐ Located in an EJ area
- ☐ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Menotomy Rocks Park (continued)

General:

- This park is located just to the north of Route 2. It is surrounded by residences and is generally bordered by Jason Street, Highland Avenue, Spring Street, and Gray Street.

Protection status:

- The parcel is protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).
- The park is zoned as open space.
- Portions of the parcel are included in the Inland Wetland District.
- Funds/grants used to support recent projects include both Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), and the Community Preservation Act (CPA)

Activities:

- Some rough, hilly trails
- Two open, green spaces
- Picnic area
- Playground
- Walking trails
- Bird watching
- Seasonal fishing Hills Pond
- Site amenities: benches, tables, teak memorial benches, signs
- Parking: on-street parking only

Natural resources:

- Jurisdictional wetlands:
 - Wetland
 - Regulated Wetland Area (100 feet)
- Hills Pond
- Brook runs through the property

Cultural resources:

- Menotomy Rocks Park is included in the Massachusetts Cultural Resource Inventory (MACRIS) as inventory #ARL.919. (c. 1875)

Site history:

- From 2009 *Open Space Management Plan: Menotomy Rocks Park consists of 3 parcels that were acquired over the course of 50 years. The principal segment, a 29-acre parcel of woodland formerly known as “Devil’s Den” was acquired by the Town in 1896. The 5.5-acre area around and including Hills Pond was purchased by the Town in 1924. A Jason Street resident donated the final parcel, the 0.5-acre Osborne lot, to the town in 1948. Town residents have used the Park for a wide number of recreational purposes over the years. Significant environmental issues that have arisen over the years have included gypsy moth infestations (the worst from 1902-05) and the dredging of Hills Pond from 1993-1995.*
- 2008: Park improvement project
- 2013: Extensive capital improvement project for pathways, erosion control and sedimentation

Menotomy Rocks Park (continued)

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2022-2029 *Open Space and Recreation Plan* (OSRP), Section 5
- 2021 *Feasibility Study* (project 5) includes recommendations for the playground.
- *Arlington Open Space Management Plan*, April 2009
- “The Benches of Menotomy Rocks” is a publication detailing the program and profiling those memorialized.

Other notes:

- The Town has worked with Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Lakes and Ponds Program. From the website: *The Lakes and Ponds Program works primarily in the DCR State Park system to protect, manage and restore valuable aquatic resources. We also provide technical assistance to communities and citizen groups as well as provide educational materials to the public about lake issues.*
- Invasive aquatic plants and land plants (such as poison ivy, knotweed, bittersweet, and cattails). Low-dose chemical aquatic herbicides used to control algae and other invasive/detrimental plants
- Environmental issues including erosion control and proper stormwater drainage, diseases and insects affecting trees (most recently the winter moth invasion;
- Inadequate tree and brush pruning
- Uncontrolled dogs in park, vandalism, unauthorized organized sports usage, and vehicles in Park
- Water quality issues due to pollution from surrounding sites
- Water is aerated

- Excellent woodland that has been maintained. Evidence of pruning along trails.
- Trails are somewhat formalized woodland trails with stonedust paths along pond,
- Pond area has wooded sections that open to open lawns creating a sense of mystery along each turn.
- Excellent species diversity in the woodlands, with a large sugar maple and shagbark hickory, oaks, maples, and beech trees.
- Some Norway maples but very minimal invasives.
- A brook running through the woodlands that must be diverted underground or a separate spring.
- On the north side another small creek with rustic boardwalk.
- Trails are marked and it must work because few social trails.

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- Public Works sets a general maintenance timetable. This includes grass mowing and trash barrel maintenance. Other issues are addressed on an as-needed basis, including tree branch pruning and trail repair.
- The park is difficult to access as it is surrounded by private property (requires ropes and climbing, no lifts), but any overhanging limbs or trees needs to be resolved quickly by the Town due to the potential for issues with private abutters. Felled trees, limbs and debris are not removed from the site but left for habitat due to the access issues.

Menotomy Rocks Park (continued)

Contracts, current & previous:

- Included in Mowing & Lawn Maintenance of Public Lands contract (current bid #20-16)
- Included in Turf Treatment for Various Playing Fields & Mount Pleasant Cemetery contract (current bid #20-17)
- Hills Pond managed by Water Bodies group for algae and aquatic invasive plant species. Conservation Commission manages the annual contract, which lasts for three years.

Volunteer activities:

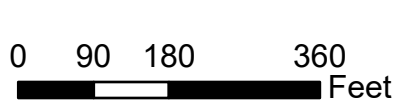
- Friends of Menotomy Rocks Park (FoMRP) has an annual maintenance permit plan, which delineates the type of work required and the responsible parties.
- Established in 1993, FoMRP conducts spring and fall clean-ups and participates in routine maintenance. Examples of current routine projects include management of invasive species, general clean-up, re-planting of native species. All projects are subject to approval by the Town prior to initiation.
- From their website: *The Friends of Menotomy Rocks Park (FoMRP) were organized in 1993 to advise the Town of Arlington concerning the use, care, and maintenance of the park, and to assist in the preservation and improvement of the land, help keep and improve the fields, pond, plantings, pathways, trees, and other natural features of the park, improve species habitat and assist in the maintenance and provision of facilities furthering recreation and enjoyment of the park. The FoMRP also conduct programs to educate the public and to promote the values and ideas upon which open space and community parks depend.*

- Additional information can be found on their website: www.friendsofmenotomy.org



(top) Hills Pond edge & social trail

(bottom) Pine woodlands at Menotomy Rocks Park



MOUNT GILBOA EXISTING CONDITIONS

Mount Gilboa

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: 1 Gilboa Road

PARCEL ID(s): 84-1-9, 84-2-1, -2 and -2.A, 84-3-1, -2, and -16, 84-6-6 ACREAGE: 10.2

OWNER: Town of Arlington

MANAGER: Conservation Commission & Office of the Town Manager (residence)

MAINTENANCE: Arlington Land Stewards

JURISDICTION: Arlington Historic Commission

Current uses:

- ☒ Conservation
- ☒ Passive Recreation
- ☐ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☐ Education

Landscape types:

- ☒ Woodlands
- ☐ Specimen trees
- ☐ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☐ Sports field:
 - ☐ Natural turf
 - ☐ Clay
 - ☐ Irrigation: ☐ Broadcast ☐ Drip

Walkways/trails

- ☒ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☐ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☐ Other

Green infrastructure:

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

Invasive plant management

- ☒ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

Waste removal

- ☐ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

Dog rules

- ☒ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☐ Limited off-leash hours

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☒ Located in an EJ area
- ☐ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Mount Gilboa (continued)

General:

- These parcels are located to the northeast of Lowell Street and are surrounded by residences on Orient, Madison, Crescent Hill, Westminster Avenues, Park Avenue Extension, and Alpine and Summit Streets.
- Includes Madison Avenue tax holdings, Arlington Stewardship Land #10.
- Arlington Stewardship Land #1
- The Lester Hayden house is managed by the office of the Town Manager.
- In October 2022, the Town advertised seeking proposals for a landscape architecture firm to conduct a feasibility study for the entirety of the conservation areas, including the two existing structures.

Protection status:

- The parcel is protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).
- The park is zoned as open space.
- Funds/grant used to support recent projects include the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and the Community Preservation Act (CPA)
- This property is located in the Mount Gilboa/Crescent Hill Historic District—a local historic district—which was established in April 1991.

Activities:

- Steep, rocky forested area
- Views of Boston city skyline

- Walking
- Birdwatching
- Includes a residence—the Lester Hayden House, which has been rented out in the past but is not currently occupied. 2015-2022 OSRP stated that it was not recommended to host public programs in this building.
- Site amenities: sign, fencing
- Parking: on-street parking only

Natural resources:

- Located on Pierce's Hill with a peak of 312 feet in elevation; the second highest hill in Arlington

Cultural resources:

- Mount Gilboa is included on the Massachusetts Cultural Resource Inventory (MACRIS) as being located within inventory #ARL.BE—Mount Gilboa-Crescent Hill Historic District and #ARL.K—Crescent Hill Historic District. The property is also listed as inventory #ARL.916—Mount Gilboa Conservation Land. Additionally, the former residence, known as the Lester Hayden House, is inventory #ARL.64. All four listings were established as a Local Historic District in 1991.

Site history:

- The land was purchased by the Town in the 1960s and set aside to be a neighborhood park.

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2022-2029 *Open Space and Recreation Plan* (OSRP), Section 5
- *Historic Preservation Survey Master Plan*, 2019

Other notes:

- In 2022, CPA funds were awarded for the Mt. Gilboa Feasibility Study, which is intended to “evaluate how best to enhance the whole property as a conservation asset, as well as to assess other potential suitable uses for the structures sitting atop the hill.”
- Excellent distribution of age and successional generation.
- Understory planting evident (i.e., lowbush blueberry), very few invasives.
- This should be a showcase woodland for the town.

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- No maintenance undertaken by Arlington DPW

Contracts, current & previous: n/a

Volunteer activities:

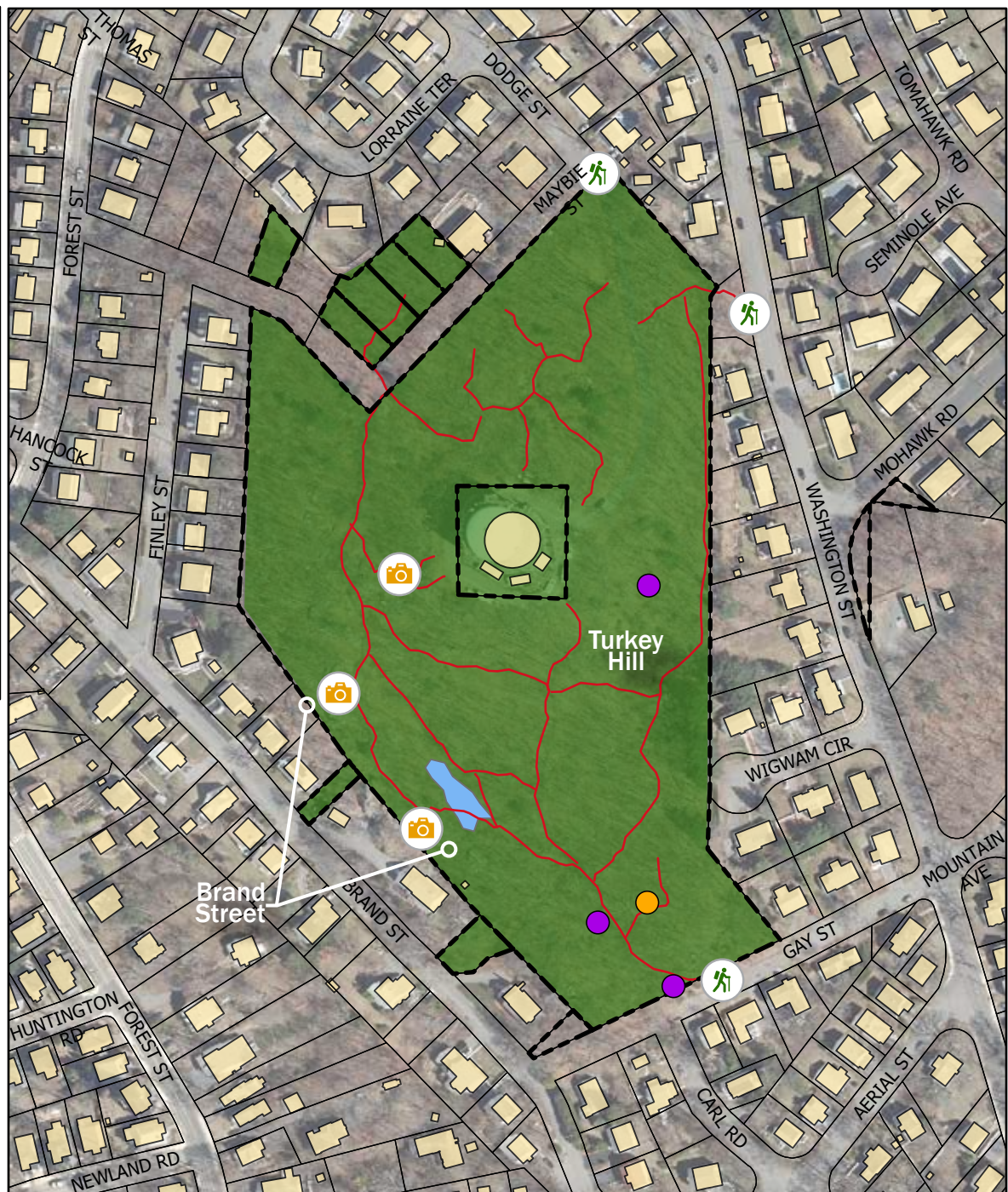
- Arlington Land Stewards (ALS)



(top) Trailhead with signage at Mount Gilboa
(bottom) A glimpse of the Boston skyline through the woods



0 125 250 500 Feet



TURKEY HILL EXISTING CONDITIONS

Turkey Hill

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: 9 Brand Street PARCEL ID(s): 100-1-7.A, 115-3-30, 119-2-9, -11, -13, -15, & -18 ACREAGE: 10.7
 OWNER: Town of Arlington MANAGER: Conservation Commission & Recreation Department
 MAINTENANCE: Arlington Land Stewards JURISDICTION: n/a

CURRENT USES

- ☒ Conservation
- ☒ Passive Recreation
- ☐ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☐ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☒ Woodlands
- ☐ Specimen trees
- ☐ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☐ Sports field:
 - ☐ Natural turf
 - ☐ Clay
 - ☐ Irrigation: ☐ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☒ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☐ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☐ Other

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☐ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☒ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☐ Limited off-leash hours

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☒ Located in an EJ area
- ☐ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Turkey Hill (continued)

General:

- Bounded by residences on Forest, Finley, Maybie, Washington, Gay, Paper and Brand Streets, as well as Wigwam Circle
 - Seasonal access provided from Dodge Street (gated)
 - Associated with two small conservation parcels along Brand Street
- Arlington Stewardship Land #2
- Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) owns and manages the water tank and the land immediately surrounding it.

Protection status:

- The park is protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).
- The park is zoned open space.

Activities:

- Rough trails on rocky, hilly terrain
- Designated off-leash recreation area: 6:00 am to 9:00 am
- Paved drive used for pedestrians only
- Site amenities: trail signage
- Parking: on-street

Natural resources:

- Potential vernal pool, not mapped by State or Town
- With limited soil volume due to the large sections of rock outcropping the woodland trees are stunted in size.
- Masses of invasive species

Cultural resources: n/a

Site history: n/a

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2022-2029 *Open Space and Recreation Plan* (OSRP), Section 5
- 2021 *Field & Playground Feasibility Study* (project 12) includes a conditions assessment and conceptual master plan for the Turkey Hill access areas. This includes Forest Street ROW, Washington Street, Gay Street, Brand Street & Carl Road access points.

Other notes:

- Water tower owned & operated by MWRA
- Stunted growth, some distribution of age but not considered 'good'.
- Invasive vegetation
- The social trails found on site are all bare earth; one that potentially goes through a vernal pool. Additionally, there is one section of trail that is very steep and rocky in character which leads to the water tower.
- Limited signage at trailheads

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- No maintenance undertaken by Arlington DPW

Contracts, current & previous: n/a

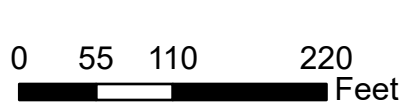
Volunteer activities:

- Arlington Land Stewards (ALS)

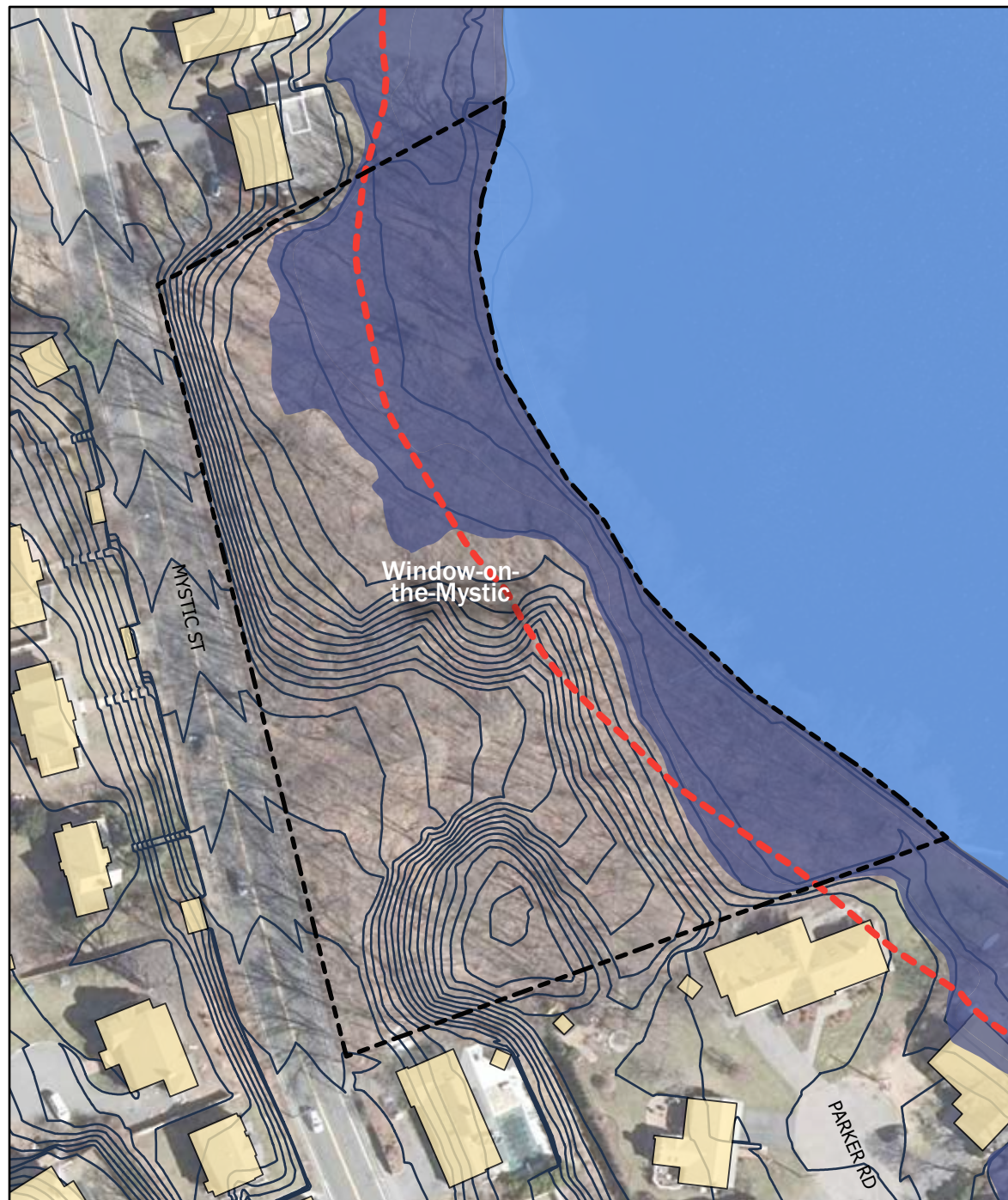
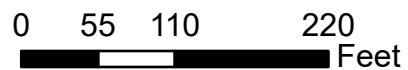
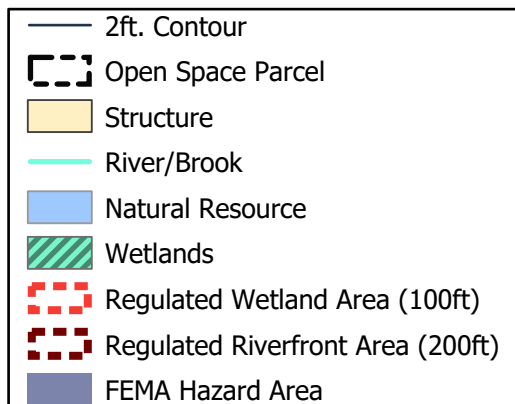


(top) Example trail at Turkey Hill

(bottom) Potential vernal pool at Turkey Hill with nearby social trails



WINDOW-ON-THE-MYSTIC EXISTING CONDITIONS



WINDOW-ON-THE-MYSTIC **JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS**

Window-on-the-Mystic

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: 406 Mystic Street

PARCEL ID(s): 77-2-1.A

ACREAGE: 2.98

OWNER: Town of Arlington

MANAGER: Conservation Commission

MAINTENANCE: Arlington Land Stewards

JURISDICTION: Arlington Conservation Commission, MassDEP Waterways

CURRENT USES

- ☒ Conservation
- ☒ Passive Recreation
- ☐ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☐ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☒ Woodlands
- ☐ Specimen trees
- ☐ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☐ Sports field:
 - ☐ Natural turf
 - ☐ Clay
 - ☐ Irrigation: ☐ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☒ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☐ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☐ Other

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☐ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☒ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☐ Limited off-leash hours

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☐ Located in an EJ area
- ☒ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Window-on-the-Mystic (continued)

General:

- This property is located on the southwest bank of Upper Mystic Lake with Mystic Street to its southwest and between the residences at 393 and 423 Mystic Street.
- Arlington Stewardship Land #4

Protection status:

- The conservation area is protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).
- The conservation area is zoned open space.
- Portions of the parcel are included in the Inland Wetland District.
- Funds/grants used to support recent projects include Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and the Urban Self-Help Grant, now known as the Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) grant

Activities:

- Steep terrain with pathways and some built-in steps leading down to Upper Mystic Lake
- Seating on the lake's shore
- Site amenities: bench, sign, bike rack
- Parking: on-street parking only

Natural resources:

- Jurisdictional wetlands:
 - Regulated Wetland Area
 - Floodplain
 - Regulatory Floodway
- Abuts Upper Mystic Lake

Cultural resources: n/a

Site history:

- 1975: Town purchased land

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2022-2029 *Open Space and Recreation Plan* (OSRP), Section 5

Other notes:

- This is one of the few public areas in Arlington on the Mystic Lakes; most of the shoreline in Arlington abuts roadways or privately held land with developed house lots.
- Excellent age diversity. Very mature robust trees with a good mix of species diversity, including oak, maple, and larch.
- Signage once in the park would be ideal, looked like a post was there with no sign.
- Some invasives including Norway maples along road and burning bush. Larger group near neighboring property/water's edge.

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- No maintenance undertaken by Arlington DPW

Contracts, current & previous: n/a

Volunteer activities:

- Arlington Land Stewards (ALS)
- A number of Boy Scouts of America projects have been undertaken to improve accessibility under the direction and with approval of the Conservation Commission.



(top) Steep embankment at Window-on-the-Mystic
(bottom) Bench overlooking the Lower Mystic Lake

This page left intentionally blank

SMALL CONSERVATION PARCELS



Small conservation parcels

11. 53 Park Avenue Rear
12. Brand Street (associated with Turkey Hill)
13. Brattle Street
14. Central Street
15. Concord Turnpike
16. Forest Street
17. Hemlock Street
18. Inverness Street
19. Kilsythe Street
20. Mohawk Road
21. Philemon Street
22. Ridge Street
23. Rublee Street
24. Short Street
25. Spring Street
26. Stone Road
27. Water Street
28. Woodside Lane

* Madison Avenue Conservation Parcels included with the with Mt. Gilboa site description.

General notes

Some common themes were noted through many of these small tax holding parcels.

- Dumping of trash and yard waste was commonplace.
- Encroachment was evident on several parcels and it was not always clear that the parcels were Town-owned property.
- Predominately vegetated with invasive trees.
- There are very few defined walkways or access routes.

GENERAL SITE INFORMATION

Ownership & Management entity:

- These parcels are tax holdings owned by the Town of Arlington and they are under the management of the Conservation Commission.
- These parcels areas are cared for by the Arlington Land Stewards. Each site description includes the parcel number identified on the Arlington Stewardship Lands document dated March 19, 2018.

Protection status:

- All of these parcels are zoned as open space.

Current uses:

- All parcels are used for conservation and passive recreation.

Invasive species:

- Upland terrestrial invasive species are present.

Environmental Justice:

- All but five parcels are located in environmental justice communities. The five parcels that are not in EJ areas are Concord Turnpike, Hemlock Street, Spring Street, Stone Road, and Woodside Lane.
- Although not within identified EJ areas, Hemlock Street and Woodside Lane are within 0.25 miles of an environmental justice area.

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

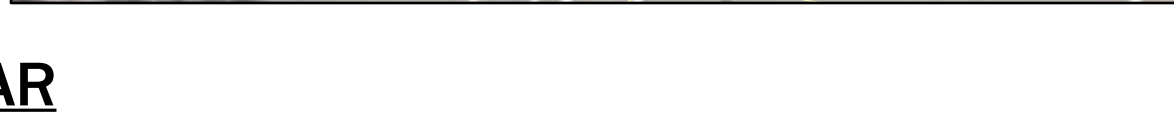
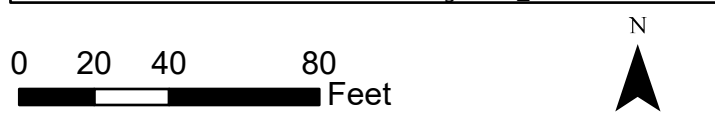
Town activities:

- No maintenance undertaken by Arlington DPW

Contracts, current & previous: n/a

Volunteer activities:

- Arlington Land Stewards: The Arlington Conservation Commission (ACC) oversees the Arlington Land Stewards (ALS) group to provide support and guidance for citizen volunteers who will take an active role in the protection of public land.



53 Park Avenue Rear Conservation Parcel

SITE INFORMATION

Boundaries, location & acreage:

- This parcel is located behind the shops along Park Avenue. It is a triangular lot which abuts Mill Brook. Access is through left side of 53 Park Avenue.
- 0.2 acres
- Parcel ID(s):
 - Map 60 Block 1 Parcel 7.A

Protection status:

- Portions of the parcel are included in both the Inland Wetland District and the Floodplain District.

Current uses:

- The site is all used for parking (gravel surface). Trash and oil barrels are lined up along the edge of the parking.
- Green infrastructure: n/a
- Parking: yes

Natural resources:

- Jurisdictional wetlands:
 - Regulated Wetland Area (100 feet)
 - Regulated Riverfront Area (200 feet)
 - FEMA Regulatory Floodway

Other notes:

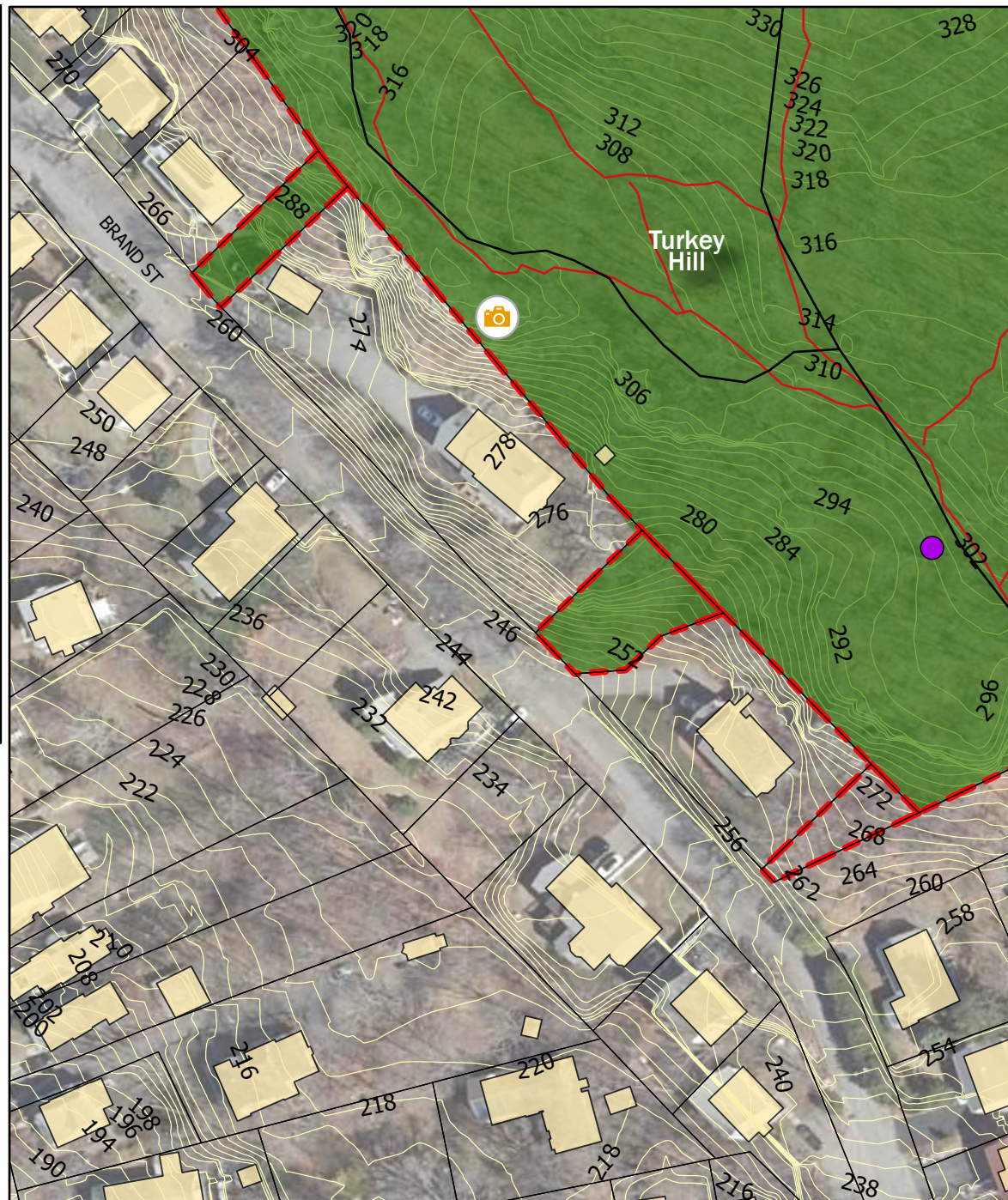
- Encroachment: yes
- Steep bank to Mill Brook that is reinforced with Jersey barriers (set on edge).
- Vegetation is mainly invasive: *Multiflora* rose and Japanese knotweed



(top) Parking, storage & pavement at 53 Park Avenue Rear
(bottom) Mill Brook with knotweed growing on its bank



0 50 100 200 Feet



BRAND STREET EXISTING CONDITIONS

Brand Street Conservation Parcel

SITE INFORMATION

Boundaries, acreage & Parcel ID(s):

- These are 2 distinct parcels; one is located between 36 and 48 Brand and the other between 48 and 72 Brand. Both are located to the southwest of Turkey Hill and directly abut the larger conservation land.
- 0.15 acres, 2 separate parcels
- Parcel ID(s):
 - Map 115 Block 3 Parcel 15.A and 25
 - Arlington Stewardship Land #11

Current uses:

- Provides access to Turkey Hill from Brand Street
- Walkways: social trail

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- Study of Town-owned lots, Area D

Other notes:

- Encroachment: yes, for access
- Parcel between 36 and 48 Brand Street is a wooded sliver between driveways
- Existing pedestrian path (to the west of 72 Brand Street) extending from street through the lot & ascending Turkey Hill

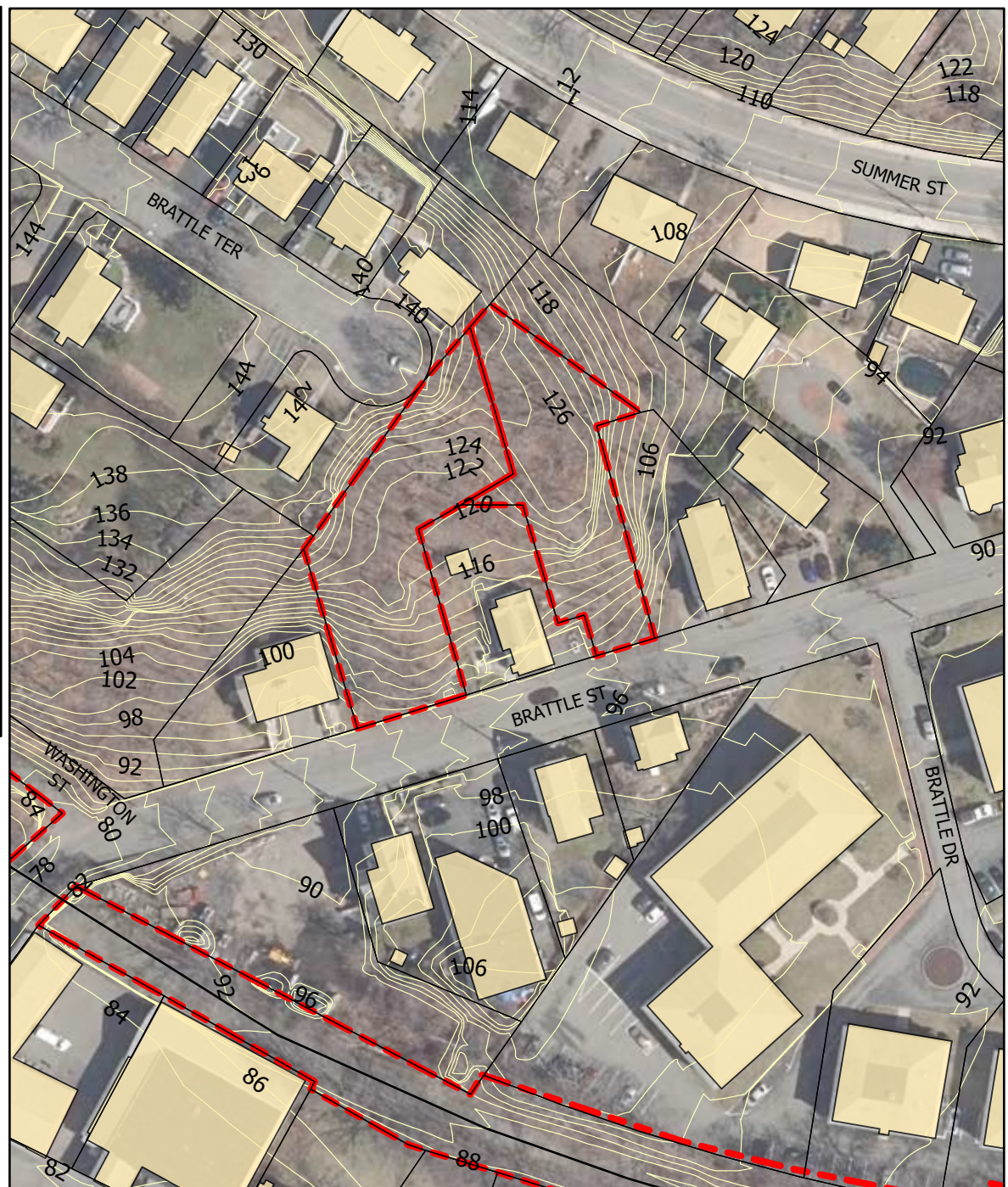


(top) Parcel between 36 and 48 Brand Street

(bottom) Parcel to the west of 72 Brand with social trail



0 50 100 200 Feet



Brattle Street Conservation Parcel

SITE INFORMATION

Boundaries, acreage & Parcel ID(s):

- These are 2 parcels which wrap to the east and west and connect on the north of 54 Brattle Street in a U-shape.
- 0.54 acres
- Parcel ID(s):
 - Map 79 Block 2 Parcel 2.A and 4.A
- Arlington Stewardship Land #9

Protection status:

- These parcels are protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).

Current uses:

- Undeveloped wooded area

Other notes:

- Encroachment: potential
- No public access along Brattle because of a mortared stone wall on the east side and the large granite block wall on the west side. Better public access from Brattle Terrace
- Site is a steep hillside with ledge outcroppings.
- Site is entirely wooded. East side of 54 Brattle is predominately Norway maples and west of 54 Brattle there is a cluster of Tree of Heaven.
- Site is entirely wooded. East side of 54 Brattle is predominately Norway maples and west of 54 Brattle there is a cluster of Tree of Heaven.



(top) Parcel to the east of 54 Brattle Street

(bottom) Parcel to the west of 54 Brattle Street



0 20 40 80 Feet



CENTRAL STREET EXISTING CONDITIONS

Central Street Conservation Parcel

SITE INFORMATION

Boundaries, acreage & Parcel ID(s):

- This area is located at the end of Central Street and abuts Minuteman Bikeway. (Adamian property)
- 0.02 acres
- Parcel ID(s):
 - No individual parcel ID identified
 - Assessor's map shows parcel as part of Map 51 Block 2 Parcel 7 and Map 51 Block 4 Parcel 7
- Arlington Stewardship Land #23

Current uses:

- Provides access to Minuteman Bikeway
- Walkways: social trail

Other notes:

- Encroachment: yes
- Limits of parcel aren't clear. Likely significant encroachment. Front yard of 35 Central is on parcel (forsythia and English ivy).
- Footpath from 32 Central extends to chain link fence that says private property.



(top) View of encroachment at the end of Central Street

(bottom) Looking to the west toward the Bikeway



CONCORD TURNPIKE EXISTING CONDITIONS

Concord Turnpike Conservation Parcel

SITE INFORMATION

Boundaries, acreage & Parcel ID(s):

- These are 2 contiguous parcels that are located between Frontage Road (paralleling Route 2) and Arlmont Street, from Newport Street to Scituate Street.
- 0.13 acres
- Parcel ID(s):
 - Map 146 Block 8 Parcel 1 and 2
- Arlington Stewardship Land #14

Protection status:

- These parcels are zoned as R-1 (single-family residential).

Current uses:

- Walkways: Crushed stone walkways with steps
- Site amenities: sign

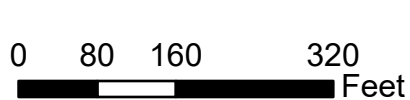
Other notes:

- Encroachment: yes, for access
- Some lawn area
- Invasives, including herbaceous layer
- Old conservation sign
- Improved trail includes crushed stone and timber steps which lead to crosswalk over Concord Turnpike & pedestrian bridge over Route 2



(top) Grassy area to the east

(bottom) Gravel walkway leading to Concord Turnpike crosswalk



FOREST STREET EXISTING CONDITIONS

Forest Street Conservation Parcel

SITE INFORMATION

Boundaries, acreage & Parcel ID(s):

- These are 3 contiguous parcels located on Forest Street near the intersection of Dunster Lane and near the Winchester town line.
- 0.98 acres
- Parcel ID(s):
 - Map 108 Block 2 Parcel 19, 20, and 23
- Arlington Stewardship Land #5

Protection status:

- These parcels are protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).
- Portions of the parcel are included in both the Inland Wetland District and the Floodplain District.

Current uses:

- Site amenities: sign, guardrail

Natural resources:

- Jurisdictional wetlands:
 - Wetland
 - Regulated Wetland Area (100 feet)

Other notes:

- Encroachment: yes
- Wetland area
- Old conservation sign identifies the site.

- Land created by dumping of soil, boulders, and asphalt. Some yard waste dumping and some trash.
- Includes a phragmites wetland and stream
- Invasive plants include Norway maple, black cherry, as well as native elm trees
- Earth sidewalk that extends concrete sidewalk off property.
- Degraded guardrail at stream
- Overhead utility wires



(top) Old conservation sign
(bottom) Wetland & dumping at Forest Street



0 30 60 120 Feet



HEMLOCK STREET EXISTING CONDITIONS

Hemlock Street Conservation Parcel

SITE INFORMATION

Boundaries, acreage & Parcel ID(s):

- This parcel is located between 5 and 17 Hemlock Street and 100 Brattle Street.
- 0.12 acres
- Parcel ID(s):
 - Map 89 Block 3 Parcel 21
- Arlington Stewardship Land #16

Other notes:

- Encroachment: potential
- Ledge face at back of sidewalk; requires climbing to climb to access land
- Land is lawn with Norway maple trees
- Likely somewhat maintained by abutters



(top & bottom) Ledge outcrop limits access to parcel



0 37.5 75 150 Feet



INVERNESS STREET EXISTING CONDITIONS

Inverness Street Conservation Parcel

SITE INFORMATION

Boundaries, acreage & Parcel ID(s):

- This parcel is located between 36 Inverness Road and 101 Wollaston Avenue.
- 0.1 acres
- Parcel ID(s):
 - Map 172 Block 6 Parcel 22
- Arlington Stewardship Land #18

Current uses:

- Wooded
- Parking: compacted earth parking for 1 or 2 cars

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- Study of Town-owned land, Area C

Other notes:

- Encroachment: yes
- Small house size parcel with street frontage
- Oak and Norway maple with no understory
- Leaf litter ground plane
- No trails or site improvements



Conservation tax holding parcel on Inverness Street



0 20 40 80 Feet



KILSYTHE ROAD EXISTING CONDITIONS

Kilsythe Street Conservation Parcel

SITE INFORMATION

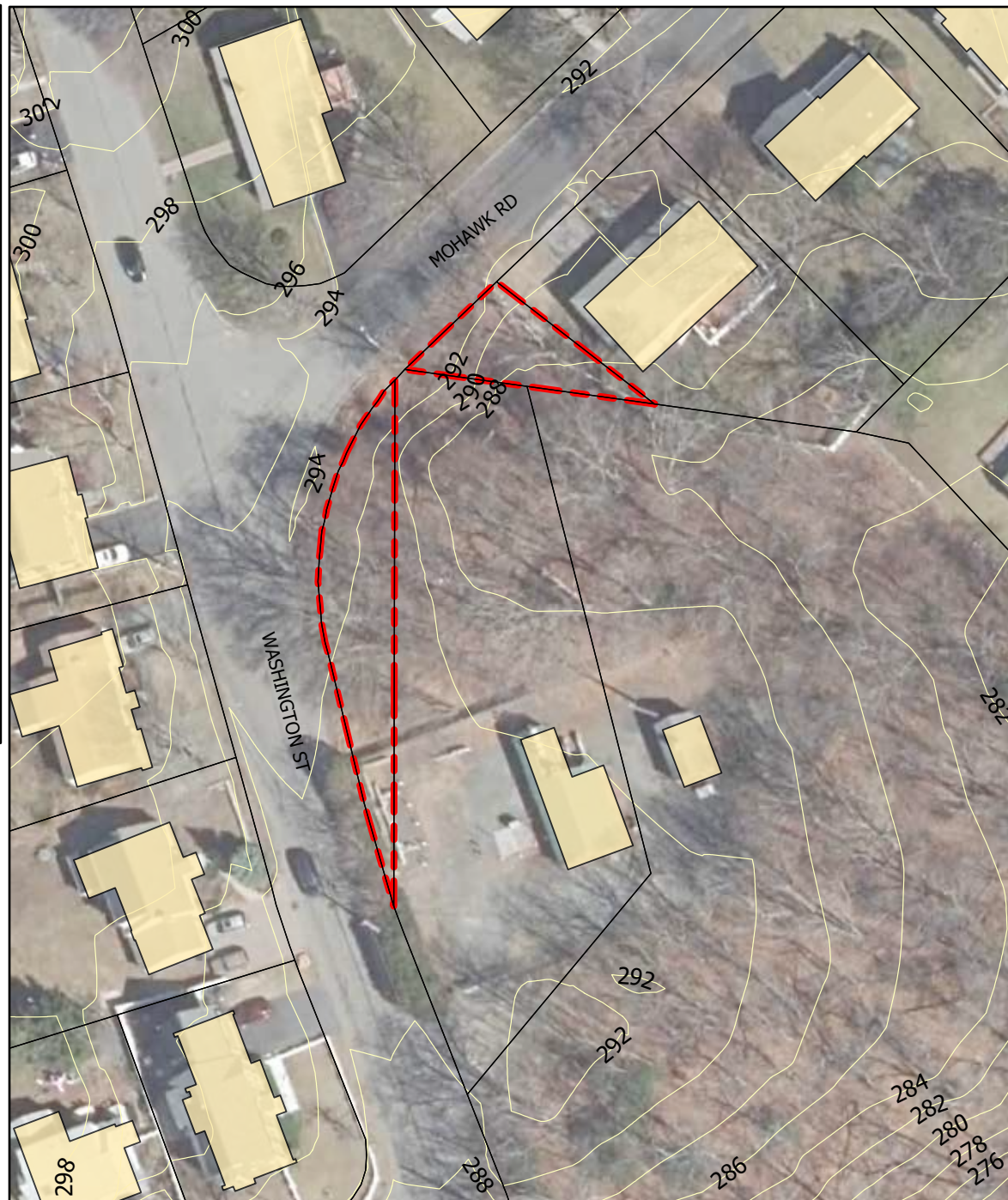
Boundaries, acreage & Parcel ID(s):

- This parcel is landlocked behind 44 and 48 Kilsythe Street, 14 Selkirk Road, and 10 and 16 Perth Road.
- 0.09 acres
- Parcel ID(s):
 - Map 176 Block 4 Parcel 9
- Arlington Stewardship Land #20

*This site has not been documented, as the parcel is inaccessible except via private property.



0 30 60 120 Feet



MOHAWK ROAD EXISTING CONDITIONS

Mohawk Road Conservation Parcel

SITE INFORMATION

Boundaries, acreage & Parcel ID(s):

- This includes 2 parcels at the intersection of Washington and Mohawk Streets. They flank 305 Washington Street, a National Grid natural gas facility.
- 0.13 acres
- Parcel ID(s):
 - Map 119 Block 6 Parcel 4.B and 5
- Arlington Stewardship Land #15

Current uses:

- Site amenities: sign

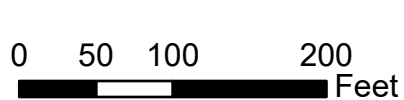
Site-specific planning reports/documentation: n/a

Other notes:

- Encroachment: no
- Boulders prevent parking/dumping
- Yard waste dumping
- Oak, cherry, Norway maple, bittersweet, grapes



(top & bottom) Small tree stand & boulders at street edge



PHILEMON STREET EXISTING CONDITIONS

Philemon Street Conservation Parcel

SITE INFORMATION

Boundaries, acreage & Parcel ID(s):

- This parcel is located between 28 and 32 Philemon Street and meets the Town line.
- 0.01 acres
- Parcel ID(s):
 - Map 112 Block 3 Parcel 1.C
- Arlington Stewardship Land #13

Current uses:

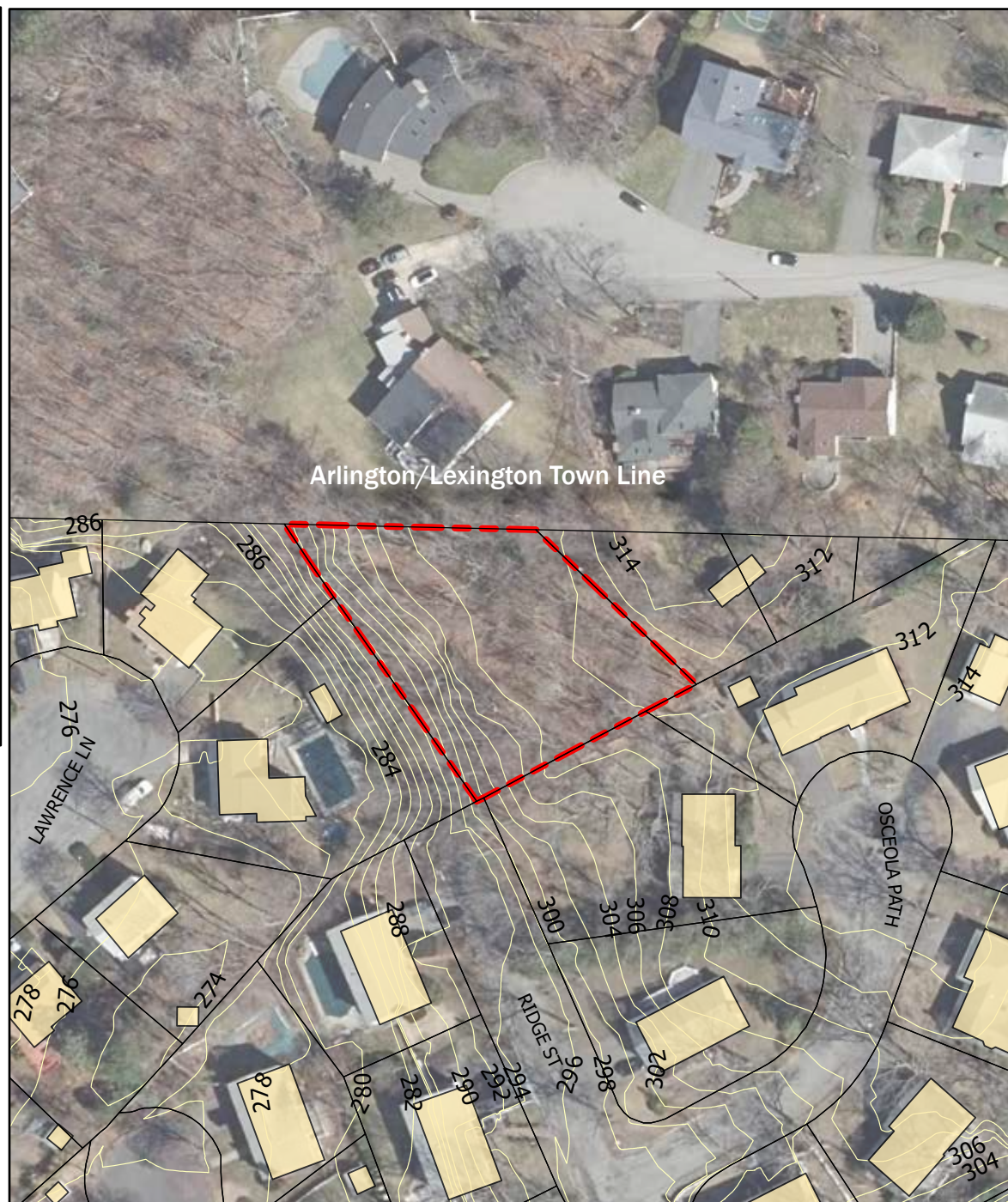
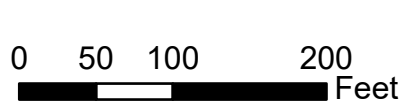
- Provides access over town line to Whipple Hill in Lexington
- Walkways: social trail
- Site amenities: sign

Other notes:

- Encroachment: yes, for access
- Narrow path that accesses Lexington's Whipple Hill
- Path starts at the end of private driveway
- Mulberry, burning bush, forsythia, oak



(top & bottom) Access to Whipple Hill in Lexington



RIDGE STREET **EXISTING CONDITIONS**

Ridge Street Conservation Parcel

SITE INFORMATION

Boundaries, acreage & Parcel ID(s):

- This parcel is located to the right at the dead end of Ridge Street at town line with Winchester.
- 0.63 acres
- Parcel ID(s):
 - Map 100 Block 1 Parcel 4.A
- Arlington Stewardship Land #7

Protection status:

- These parcels are protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).

Current uses:

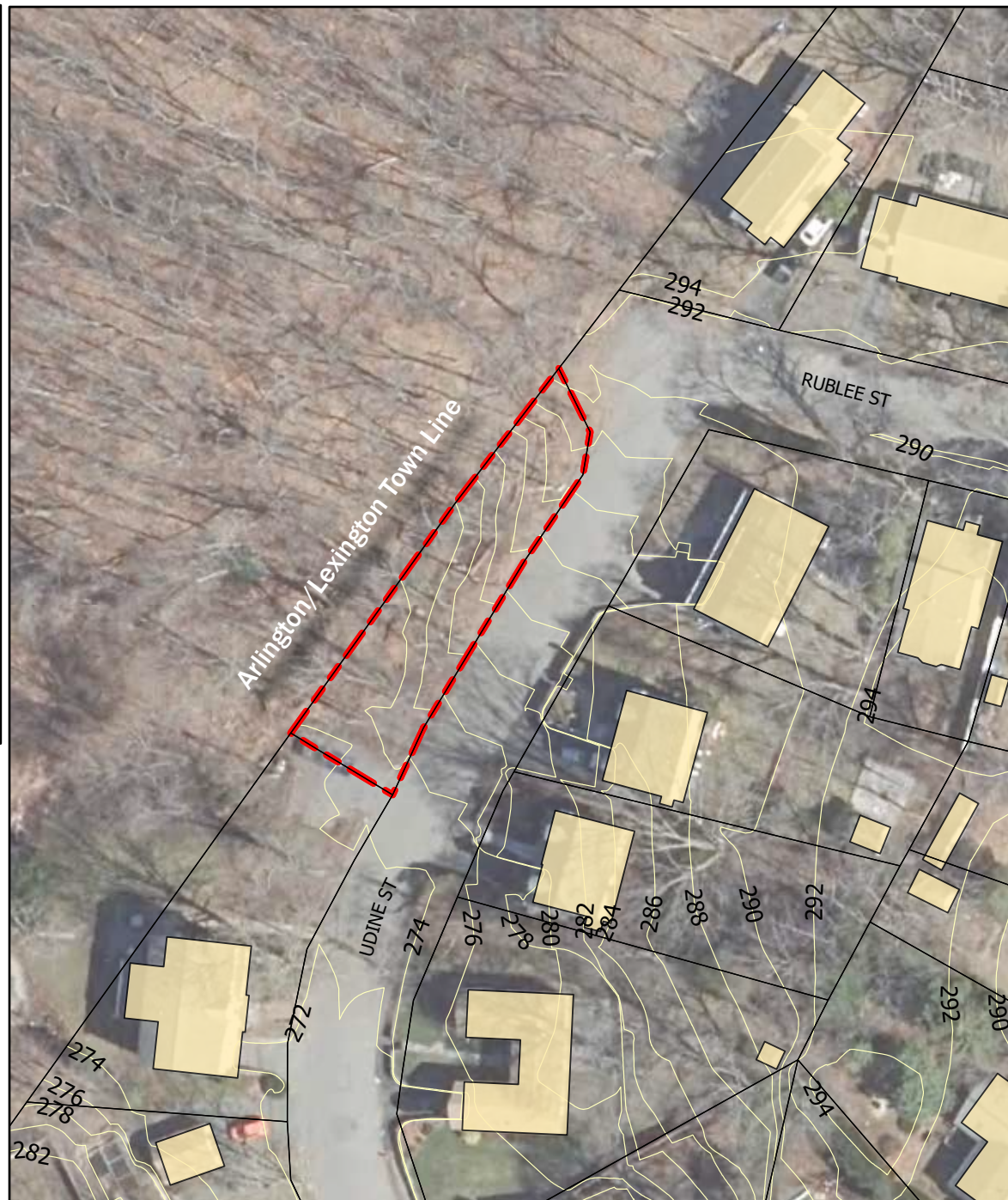
- Undeveloped open space

Other notes:

- Encroachment: yes
- Access off dead end and surrounded by residential backyards
- Some yard waste dumping that limits access
- Some trash, i.e., beer cans
- Ledge outcrop
- Invasive plants, including tree-of-heaven, Norway maple, as well as oak trees, less than 18 inches
- English ivy on trees
- *Euonymus* groundcover



(top & bottom) General conditions of wooded area at Ridge Street parcel



RUBLEE STREET EXISTING CONDITIONS

Rublee Street Conservation Parcel

SITE INFORMATION

Boundaries, acreage & Parcel ID(s):

- This is a long, linear parcel is located along the west of Udine Street (between Udine and the border with Lexington) near the intersection with Rublee Street.
- 0.1 acres
- Parcel ID(s):
 - Map 177 Block 1 Parcel 8
- Arlington Stewardship Land #19

Current uses:

- Provides access to Sutherland Woods in Lexington
- Walkways: social trail
- Site amenities: bollard, sign, seasonal port-a-potty, chain link fence

Other notes:

- Encroachment: yes, for access
- Limit marked with a galvanized chain link fence and granite bollard with "A"
- Narrow space is wooded (oak mainly) and has logs, boulders, and some trash
- A few snags
- Overhead utilities at curb

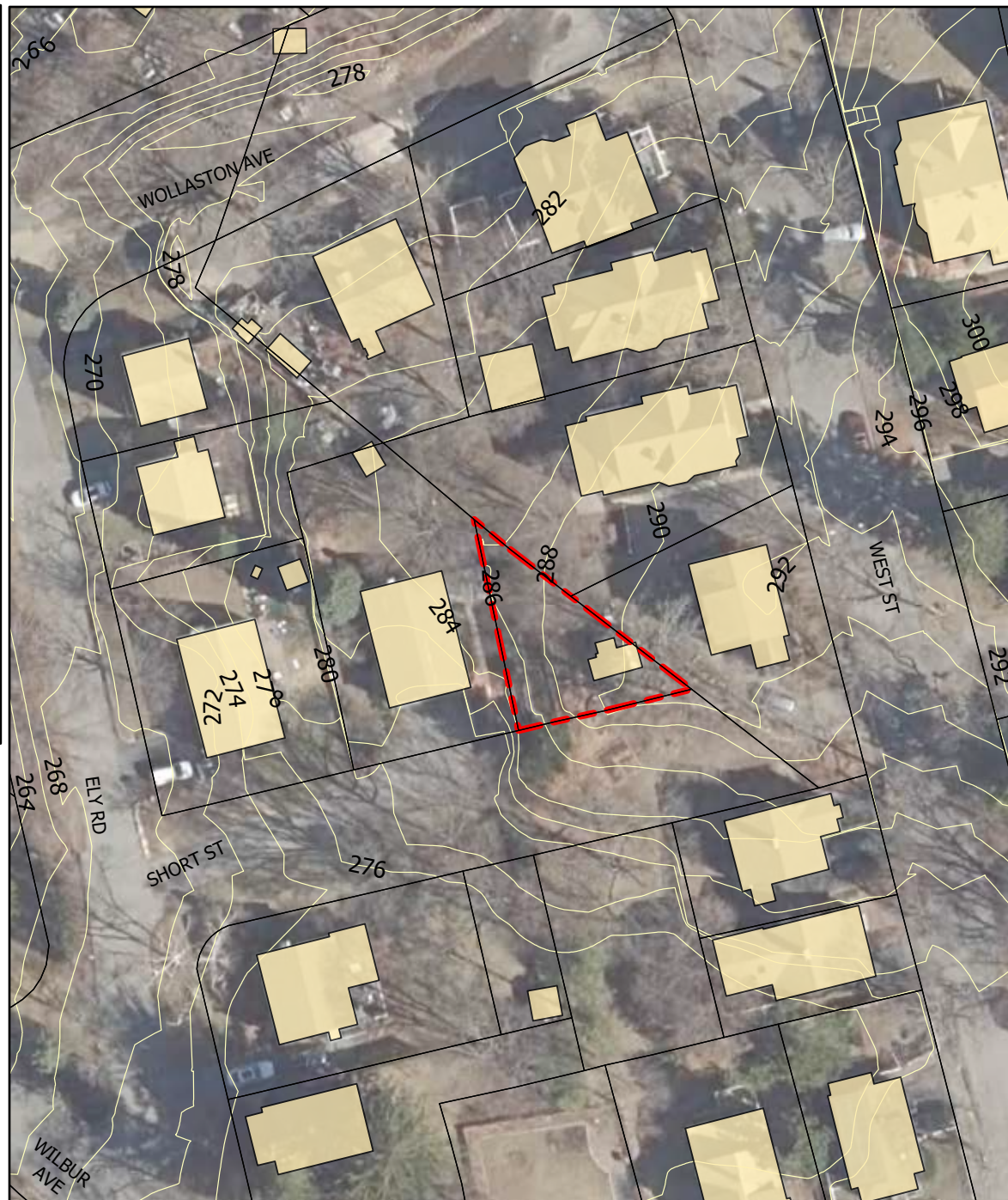


(top) Fencing & woods along Udine Street

(bottom) Overhead wires at curb



0 30 60 120 Feet



SHORT STREET EXISTING CONDITIONS

Short Street Conservation Parcel

SITE INFORMATION

Boundaries, acreage & Parcel ID(s):

- This is a triangular parcel located between 8 Short, and 7-9 and 11 West Streets.
- 0.07 acres
- Parcel ID(s):
 - Map 172 Block 9 Parcel 5
- Arlington Stewardship Land #17

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- Study of Town-owned lots, Area C

Other notes:

- Encroachment: yes
- Encroachment issues with private shed located on parcel
- Spruce tree and forsythia between several backyards



(top) View down Short Street



0 50 100 200 Feet



SPRING STREET EXISTING CONDITIONS

Spring Street Conservation Parcel

SITE INFORMATION

Boundaries, acreage & Parcel ID(s):

- This is a long linear parcel (potential paper street) is across Spring Street from Menotomy Rocks, between 120 and 184 Spring Street, and 82 and 86 Arlmont Street.
- 0.14 acres
- Parcel ID(s):
 - Map 145 Block 7 Parcel 7
- Arlington Stewardship Land #22

Protection status:

- This parcel is zoned as R-1 (single-family residential).

Current uses:

- Conservation
- Provides access from Arlmont Street to Menotomy Rocks Park
- Walkways: gravel drive

Other notes:

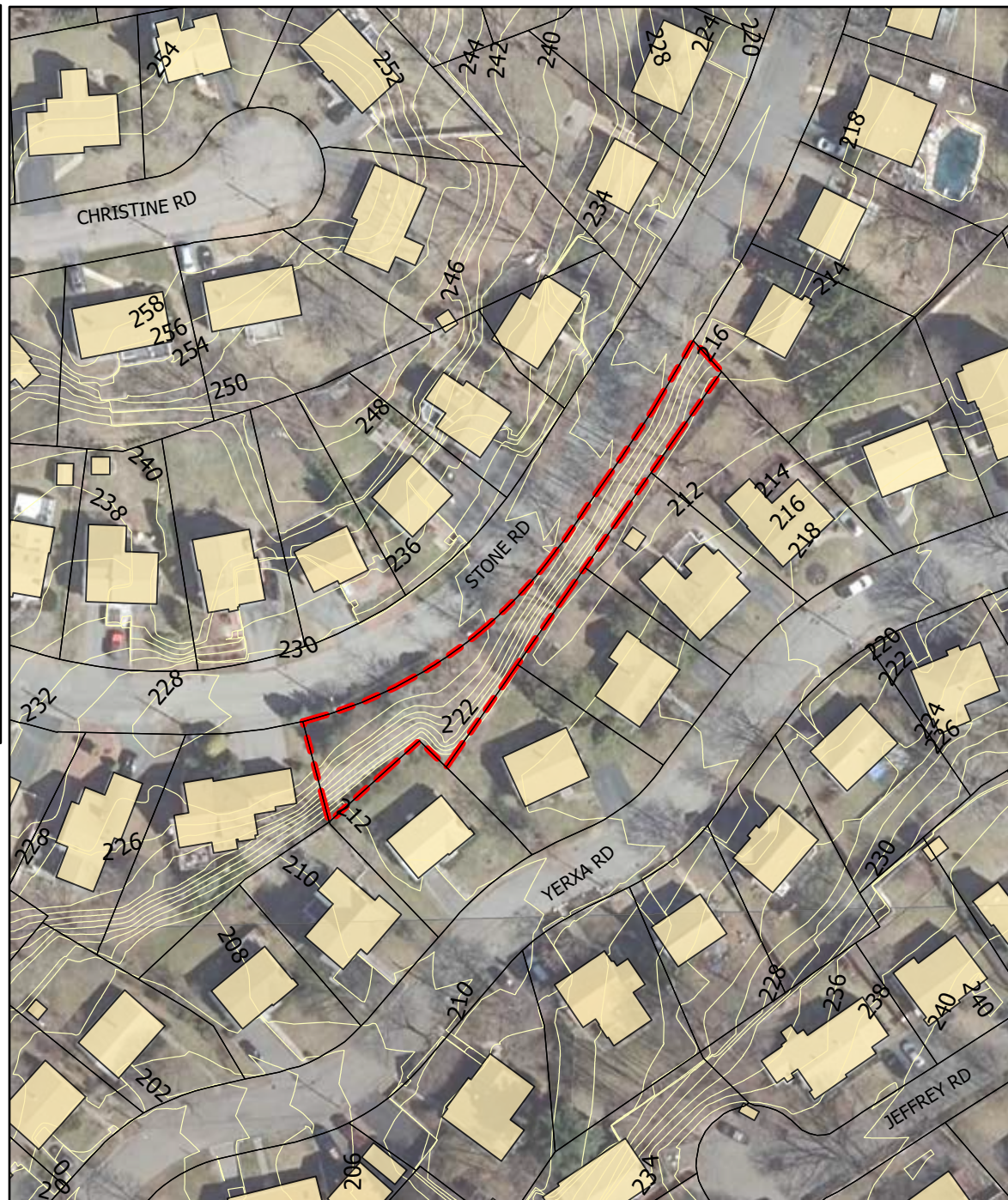
- Encroachment: potential, maybe a paper street
- An alley/gravel road
- Access to driveways and a garage
- Trees appear to be on private land
- One small patch of Japanese knotweed



(top & bottom) Gravel access drive behind residences along Spring Street



0 50 100 200 Feet



STONE ROAD EXISTING CONDITIONS

Stone Road Conservation Parcel

SITE INFORMATION

Boundaries, acreage & Parcel ID(s):

- This is a long, linear parcel to the southeast of Stone Street between 19 and 31 Stone Road. It backs up to the rear yards of 30-46 Yerxa Road residences.
- 0.19 acres
- Parcel ID(s):
 - Map 92.A Block 2 Parcel 5.A
- Arlington Stewardship Land #12

Other notes:

- Encroachment: yes
- Along road is a level shoulder that has weed barrier fabric. Then grades drop very steeply to backyards.
- Some dumping of yard waste
- Trees are a mix of invasives, natives, and ornamental species (i.e., blue atlas cedar).
- Watch two very large sugar maples with deadwood as they could impact new fence at property line



(top & bottom) Steep slope & debris at Stone Road



0 20 40 80 Feet



Water Street Conservation Parcel

SITE INFORMATION

Boundaries, acreage & Parcel ID(s):

- This parcel is bound by Buzzell Field and the Minuteman Bikeway, the west of the parking for Russell Place.
- 0.05 acres
- Parcel ID(s):
 - Map 51 Block 3 Parcel 2.B
- Arlington Stewardship Land #21

Protection status:

- Portions of the parcel are included in both the Inland Wetland District and the Floodplain District.

Current uses:

- Site amenities: benches

Natural resources:

- Jurisdictional wetlands:
 - Regulated Wetland Area (100 feet)

Other notes:

- Encroachment: no
- Adjacent to and effectively a part of Buzzell Field
- Two recycled plastic benches, neither have a concrete pad or a path for accessibility.
- Behind one bench up against the parking there are some volunteer trees re-sprouting
- Next to the other bench is a leaning Norway maple
- Ground plane is all natural turf



(top & bottom) Seating & plantings at Water Street, adjacent to Buzzell Field



0 55 110 220 Feet



WOODSIDE LANE EXISTING CONDITIONS

Woodside Lane Conservation Parcel

SITE INFORMATION

Boundaries, acreage & Parcel ID(s):

- This is a linear parcel paralleling Woodside Lane to the south, between 5 and 38 Woodside Lane.
- 0.38 acres
- Parcel ID(s):
 - Map 88 Block 3 Parcel 1
- Arlington Stewardship Land #8

Protection status:

- These parcels are protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).

Current uses:

- Undeveloped woods on steep, rocky parcel
- Site amenities: sign

Other notes:

- Encroachment: potential, to be confirmed
- Eagle scout project for access improvements (recent)
- CDBG and Massachusetts Department of Natural Resource grants funded purchase of property in 1975.
- Steep hillside between road and private backyards
- Mainly invasives, including tree of heaven, black locust, multi flora rose, euonymous, bittersweet
- No paths
- Some litter

- Large trees that should be monitored so they don't damage private property



Ivy-covered trees on steep slope at Woodside Lane

This page left intentionally blank

PARKS & FIELDS



Parks & fields

29. Bishop Elementary School Field
30. Buzzell Fields
31. Florence Field at the Dallin Elementary School
32. Hurd Field
33. Magnolia Park & Field
34. McClennen Park
35. North Union Park & Lussiano Field at the Thompson Elementary School
36. Ottoson Middle School Field
37. Parallel Park
38. Pheasant Avenue Park /Greeley Playground at the Stratton Elementary School
39. Poet's Corner
40. Robbins Farm Park
41. Spy Pond Park & Scannell Fields
42. Thorndike Field
43. Veterans' Memorial Sports Complex & Buck Field
44. Waldo Park & Playground
45. Wellington Park

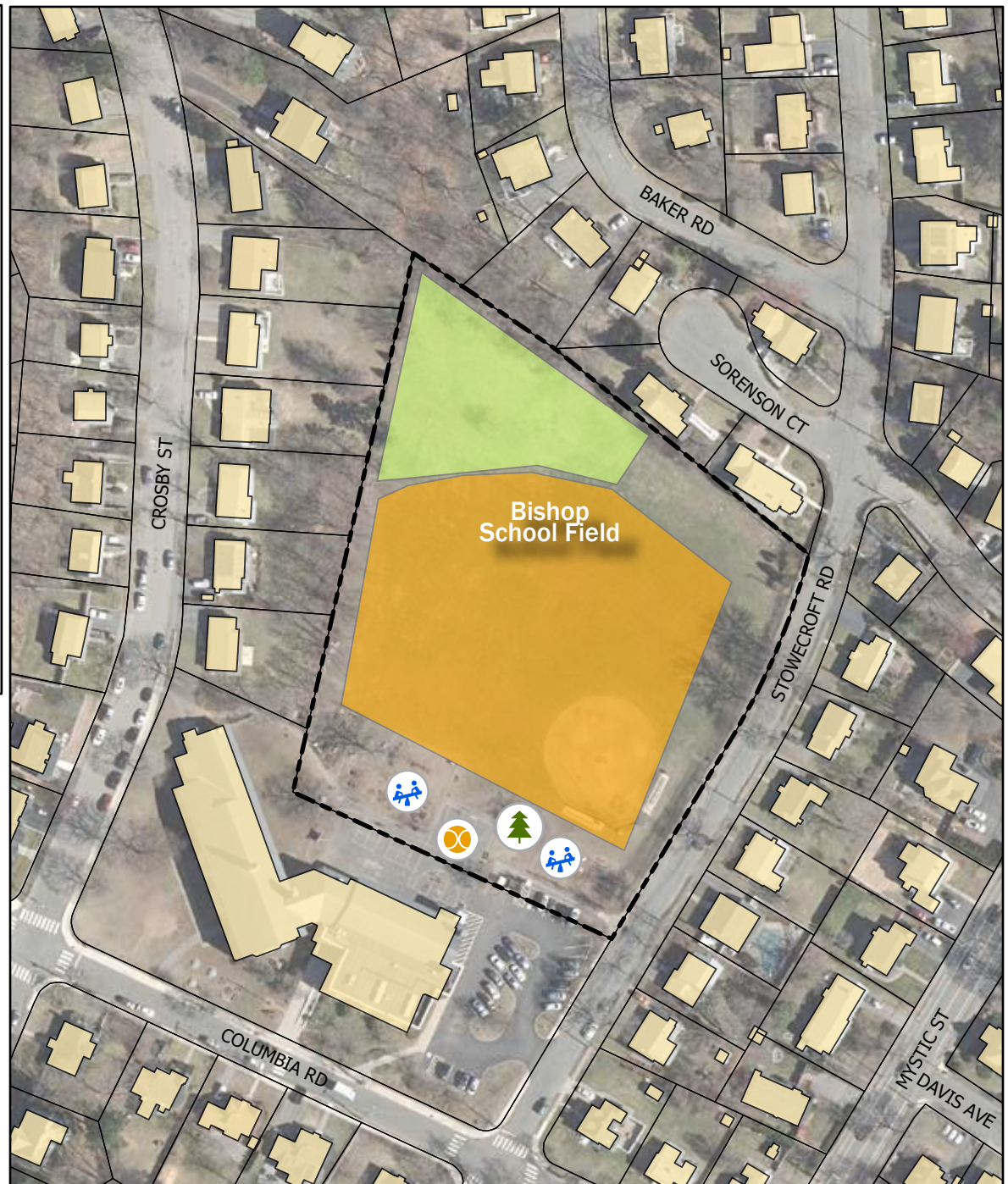
General notes

The parks and fields included herein are a select list of parks and fields, not a comprehensive assessment of all parks and fields in Town. Those included are Town-owned facilities that are adjacent to elementary and middle schools and that are under the purview of the Parks Division of the Department of Public Works who maintain these parcels. They do not include playgrounds or dedicated school facilities.

The parks, especially, are diverse in their nature and provide unique character to the Town's neighborhoods. These parks and fields include a wide variety of amenities, including baseball, softball, and Little League fields, multi-use rectilinear fields, and open green spaces. They also include a select amount of community gardens, meadows, native/pollinator gardens, and rain gardens.



0 75 150 300
Feet



BISHOP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FIELD **EXISTING CONDITIONS**

Bishop Elementary School Field

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: 25 Columbia Road

PARCEL ID(s): 72-1-4

ACREAGE: 5.7, including school

OWNER: Town of Arlington

MANAGER: Recreation Department

MAINTENANCE: Department of Public Works, Contracted

JURISDICTION: n/a

CURRENT USES

- ☐ Conservation
- ☒ Passive Recreation
- ☒ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☒ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☐ Woodlands
- ☒ Specimen trees
- ☒ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☒ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☒ Sports field:
 - ☒ Natural turf
 - ☒ Clay
 - ☐ Irrigation: ☐ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☐ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☐ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☐ Other

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☐ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☒ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☒ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☐ Limited off-leash hours

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☒ Located in an EJ area
- ☐ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Bishop Elementary School Field (continued)

General:

- The John A. Bishop Elementary School is located north of Columbia Road between Stowcroft Road (to the east) and residences along Crosby Street to the west. Residences on Baker Street form the northern boundary.

Protection status:

- The field parcel is protected in perpetuity.
- The fields are zoned open space while the school lot is zoned R-1 (single family) zoning.
- Funds/grants used to support recent projects include the Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

Activities:

- Softball/Little League field
- Playground
- Basketball court & foursquare paved area
- Open lawn area, with significant slope & small grove of trees
- Parking: Off-street parking adjacent to school building

Natural resources: n/a

Cultural resources: n/a

Site history:

- The Bishop School was first opened in 1949. It serves students along the Route 3/Mystic Street and the Route 60/Pleasant Street corridor through Arlington.
- A new playground was installed in the fall of 2022.

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2019 ADA Self-Evaluation noted the need to renovate exterior routes, to renovate accessible parking space, and to provide an accessible picnic table.

Other notes:

- Just a few very significant trees, in fair-to-good condition
- Dirt area between play area heavily used
- Far corner has a steeply sloped area
- Cannot confirm if there is irrigation on the field

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- Parks Division of Public Works mows, stripes, and maintains the field.

Contracts, current & previous:

- Included in Turf Treatment for Various Playing Fields & Mount Pleasant Cemetery contract (current bid #20-17)

Volunteer activities: n/a

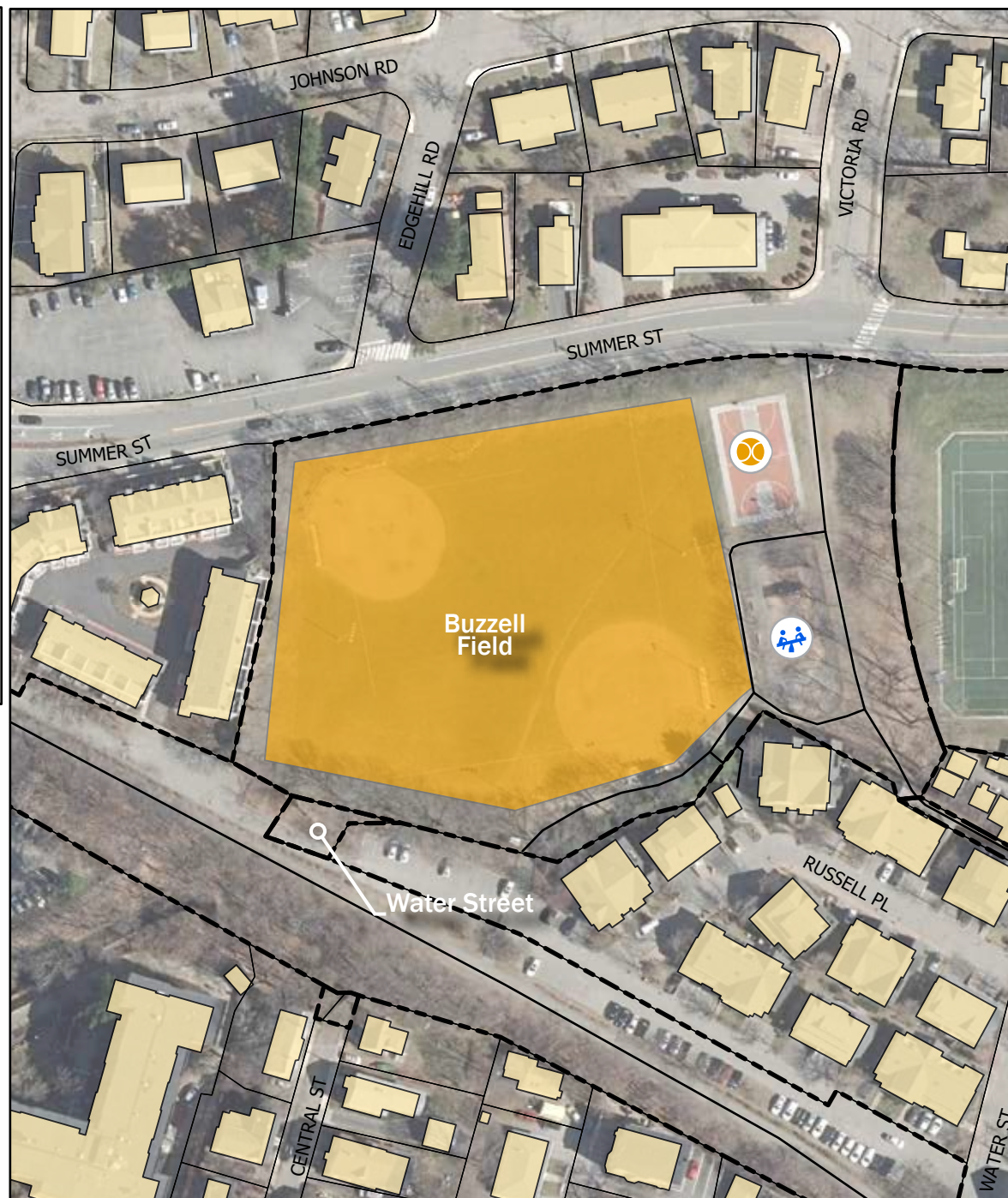
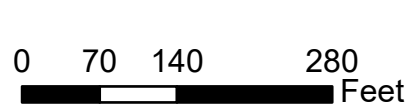


Sloped lawn area beyond the outfield



(top) Ball field at Bishop Elementary School

(bottom) Play space behind the ball field



BUZZELL FIELD EXISTING CONDITIONS

Buzzell Field

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: 29 Summer Street

PARCEL ID(s): 63-4-17.A

ACREAGE: 3.6

OWNER: Town of Arlington

MANAGER: Recreation Department

MAINTENANCE: Department of Public Works, Contracted

JURISDICTION: n/a

CURRENT USES

- ☐ Conservation
- ☐ Passive Recreation
- ☒ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☐ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☐ Woodlands
- ☒ Specimen trees
- ☐ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☒ Sports field:
 - ☒ Natural turf
 - ☒ Clay
 - ☒ Irrigation: ☒ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☐ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☐ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☒ Other: bituminous

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☐ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☒ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☒ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☐ Limited off-leash hours

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☒ Located in an EJ area
- ☐ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Buzzell Field (continued)

General:

- Buzzell Field is location on Summer Street. To the west is the Village at Cutter's Mill (residences) and to the east are fields associated with Arlington Catholic High School. To the south is Russell Place and some residences along the street,

Protection status:

- The park is protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).
- The park is zoned open space.
- Funds/grants used to support recent projects include the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and the Community Development Block Grant. (CDBG)

Activities:

- Two Little League/softball fields with natural turf, clay infields, irrigation, and sports lighting
- Softball field used by the Arlington High School team(s)
- Playground
- Basketball court
- Access to Minuteman Bikeway
- Site amenities: picnic tables
- Parking: on-street parking only

Natural resources:

- Mill Brook culverted below ground

Cultural resources: n/a

Site history:

- Buzzell Field was one of three fields in the town of Arlington converted from a landfill. Previous to the landfill the area was part of a mill pond. It was dedicated to a 1961 Arlington High School graduate killed in the Vietnam War, Navy Lieutenant Richard H. Buzzell.
- 2008: The site was renovated which improved drainage and irrigation, and sand replenishment of the playground.

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2022-2029 *Open Space and Recreation Plan* (OSRP), Section 5

Other notes:

- The 2015-2022 *Open Space and Recreation Plan* noted that flooding is an issue
- Buzzell Field is one of three Arlington Parks that has been built on a capped landfill.
- Due to sub-surface conditions (covered landfill & culverted Mill Brook), Buzzell Field is swampy after any rain event.

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- Parks Division of Public Works mows, stripes & maintains the field.

Contracts, current & previous:

- Included in Turf Treatment for Various Playing Fields & Mount Pleasant Cemetery contract (current bid #20-17)

Volunteer activities: n/a

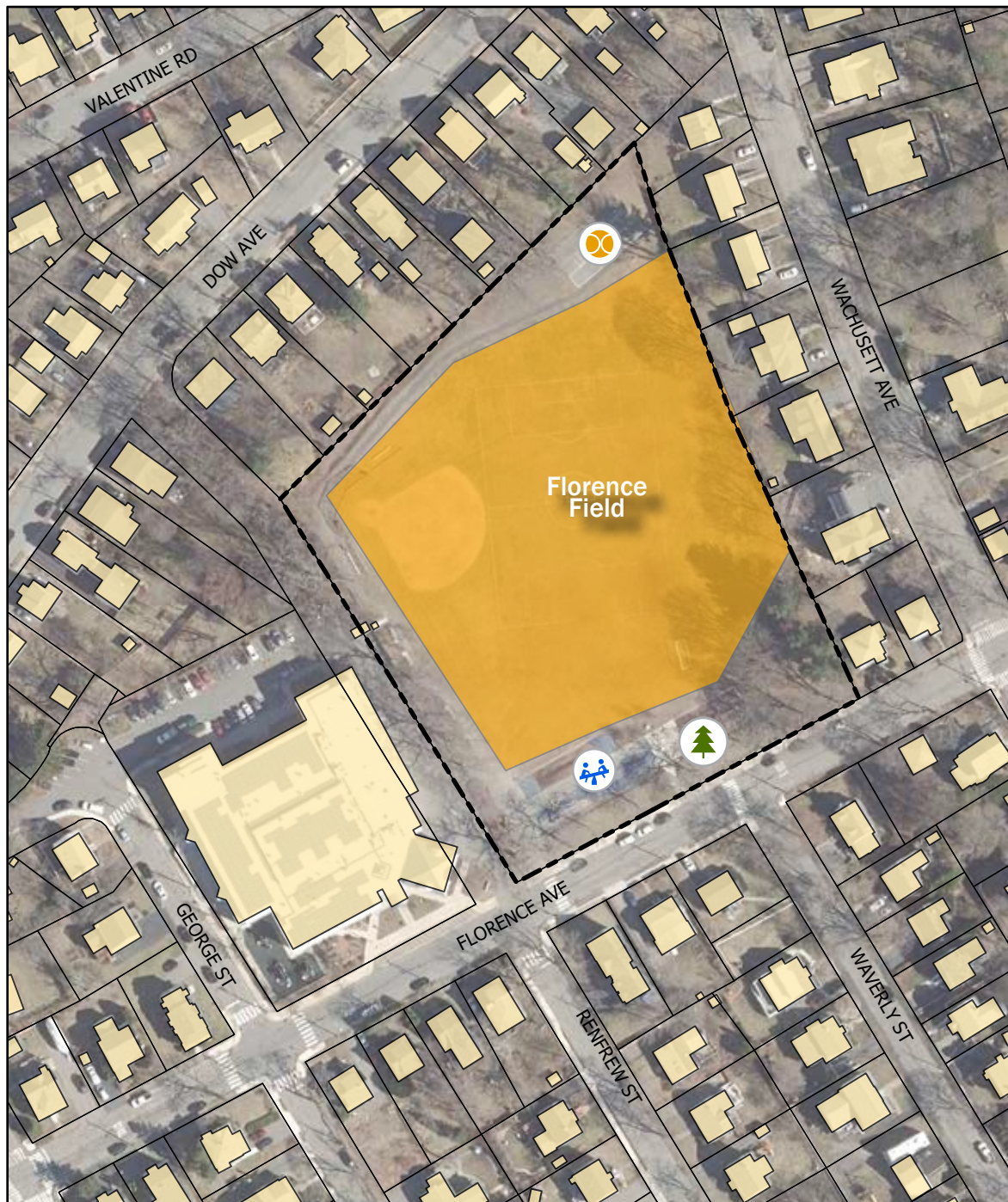


(top) Baseball field at Buzzell

(bottom) Buzzell Field Path connects Summer Street to the Bikeway



0 80 160 320 Feet



FLORENCE FIELD **EXISTING CONDITIONS**

Florence Field at the Cyrus E. Dallin Elementary School

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: 185 Florence Avenue

PARCEL ID(s): 159-10-1

ACREAGE: 5.3

OWNER: Town of Arlington

MANAGER: Recreation Department

MAINTENANCE: Department of Public Works, Contracted

JURISDICTION: n/a

CURRENT USES

- ☐ Conservation
- ☐ Passive Recreation
- ☒ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☒ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☐ Woodlands
- ☒ Specimen trees
- ☐ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☒ Sports field:
 - ☒ Natural turf
 - ☒ Clay
 - ☐ Irrigation: ☐ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☐ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☐ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☒ Other: bituminous

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☐ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☒ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☒ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☐ Limited off-leash hours

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☐ Located in an EJ area
- ☒ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Florence Field (continued)

General:

- Florence Field is located in the Arlington Heights neighborhood, just to the northeast of the Dallin Elementary School. It directly borders Florence Avenue and George Street dead ends with the parking lot that feeds both the school and the park. Florence Field is also bounded by the residences along Wachusett and Dow Avenues.

Protection status:

- The field parcel is protected in perpetuity.
- The fields are zoned open space while the school lot is zoned R-1 (single family) zoning.
- Funds/grants used to support recent projects include the Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), and the Community Preservation Act (CPA)

Activities:

- Little League/softball field
- Large, open green space for soccer/lacrosse
- Playground
- Small spray park
- Small basketball area
- Bituminous walkway runs between school & field, approximately north-south
- Site amenities: benches, bike racks and tables associated with school entry area
- Parking: Off-street parking north of the school building

Natural resources:

- Jurisdictional wetland:
 - Regulated Wetland Area (100 feet)

Cultural resources: n/a

Site history:

- The school was completed in 2006 and serves just under 500 Kindergarten to 5th grade students. It is named after the sculptor who resided & worked in Arlington.

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2019 ADA Self-Evaluation noted need to renovate exterior access routes and curb ramp by the main entrance

Other notes:

- Field heavily used closer to school and worn to dirt; students playing closer to playground (typical) and less in broader field; trees recently pruned
- Well-treed border on east and south boundaries

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- Evidence of pruning of trees on property
- Parks Division of Public Works mows, stripes & maintains the field.

Contracts, current & previous:

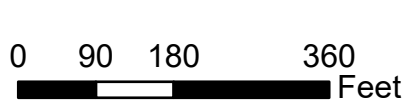
- Included in Turf Treatment for Various Playing Fields & Mount Pleasant Cemetery contract (current bid #20-17)

Volunteer activities: n/a

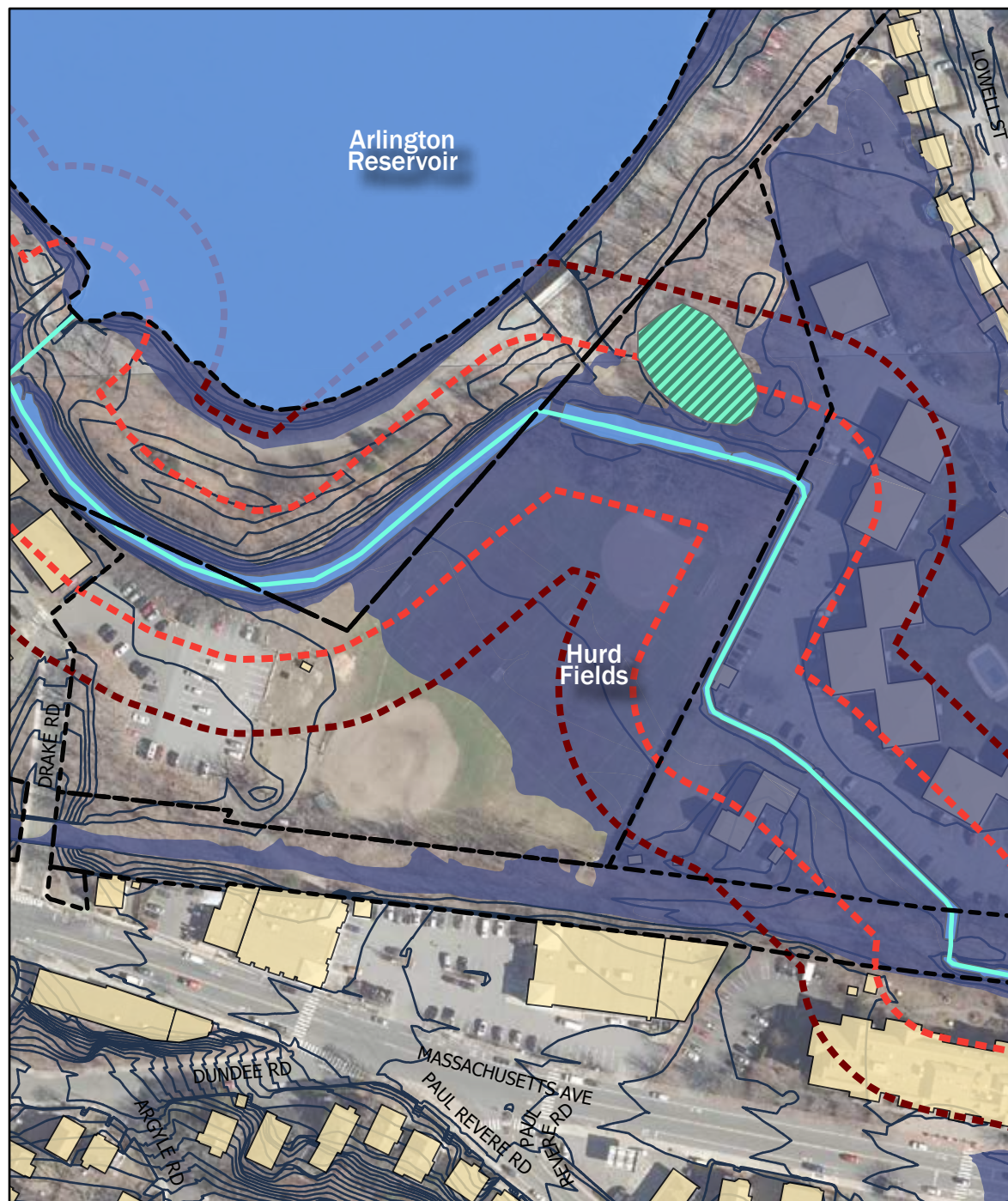
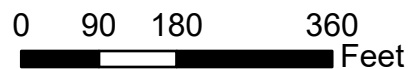
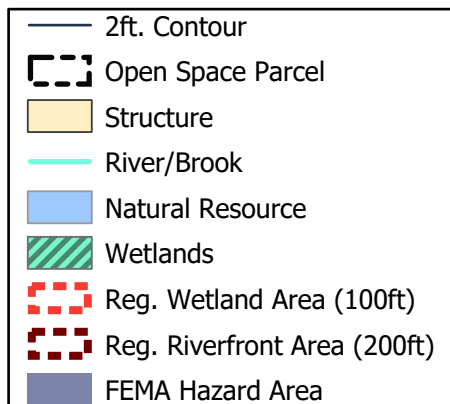


(top) Multi-use field area

(bottom) Play area & worn area adjacent to it



HURD FIELD **EXISTING CONDITIONS**



Hurd Field

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: 25 Drake Road PARCEL ID(s): 61-1-3 ACREAGE: 6.1
 OWNER: Town of Arlington MANAGER: Recreation Department MAINTENANCE: Department of Public Works, Contracted
 JURISDICTION: Arlington Conservation Commission, MassDEP Waterways

CURRENT USES

- ☐ Conservation
- ☐ Passive Recreation
- ☒ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☐ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☒ Woodlands
- ☒ Specimen trees
- ☒ Open lawn
- ☒ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☐ Sports field:
 - ☒ Natural turf
 - ☒ Clay
 - ☐ Irrigation: ☐ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☒ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☐ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☒ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☐ Other

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☒ Porous pavement
- ☒ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☒ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☐ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☒ Limited off-leash hours: 6 AM - 9AM, ends at 8:30 AM on weekends in spring and fall

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☒ Located in an EJ area
- ☐ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Hurd Field (continued)

General:

- Hurd Field renovation began in September 2022. The project will update the fields and add porous pavement walkways (permeable) which will loop the field and formally connect to the Reservoir perimeter trail and the Minuteman Bikeway. The project will also restore the rain garden and convert some open lawn to meadow plantings.
- Hurd Field is bounded to the north and east by Mill Brook, to the south by the Minuteman Bikeway, and to the west by Drake Village—a development of the Arlington Housing Authority.

Protection status:

- The park is protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).
- The park is zoned open space.
- Portions of the parcel are included in both the Inland Wetland District and the Floodplain District.
- Funds/grants used to support recent projects include the Community Preservation Act (CPA)

Activities:

- Two softball/Little League fields
- Large, multi-use field
- Access to Minuteman Bikeway and the Reservoir and its facilities
- Walkways: porous pavement (2022 renovation)
- Site amenities: benches, sign
- Parking: porous pavement off-street parking

Natural resources:

- Jurisdictional wetlands:
 - Wetland
 - Regulated Wetland Area
 - Riverfront Area
 - Floodplain
 - FEMA Regulatory Floodway
- Mill Brook borders the fields. The existing bridge has 4 pipes for water flow, which often obstructs water flow as they get clogged.

Cultural resources: n/a

Site history:

- 2012: Parking lot resurfaced and striped as part of EPA porous pavement project
- 1998: Renovation to bridge

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2022-2029 *Open Space and Recreation Plan* (OSRP), Section 5
- *Mill Brook Corridor Report*, 2019
- 2021 *Field & Playground Feasibility Study* (project 2) includes conditions assessment and conceptual master plan. The final design for Hurd Field to be implemented late 2022-2023.
- Arlington Conservation Commission Order of Conditions (DEP #091-0337) for the 2022 landscape improvement project

Other notes:

- Bank erosion on Mill Brook
- Flooding
- Invasive plants
- Woodland buffer edges need pruning and invasive management
- Renovation of site planned for fall 2022-2023

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- Parks Division of Public Works mows, stripes, and maintains the field.

Contracts, current & previous:

- Included in Turf Treatment for Various Playing Fields & Mount Pleasant Cemetery contract (current bid #20-17)
- Porous parking lot under contract to be vacuumed once per year.

Volunteer activities:

- Invasive species removal by the Reservoir Committee's Invasive team, spring 2022

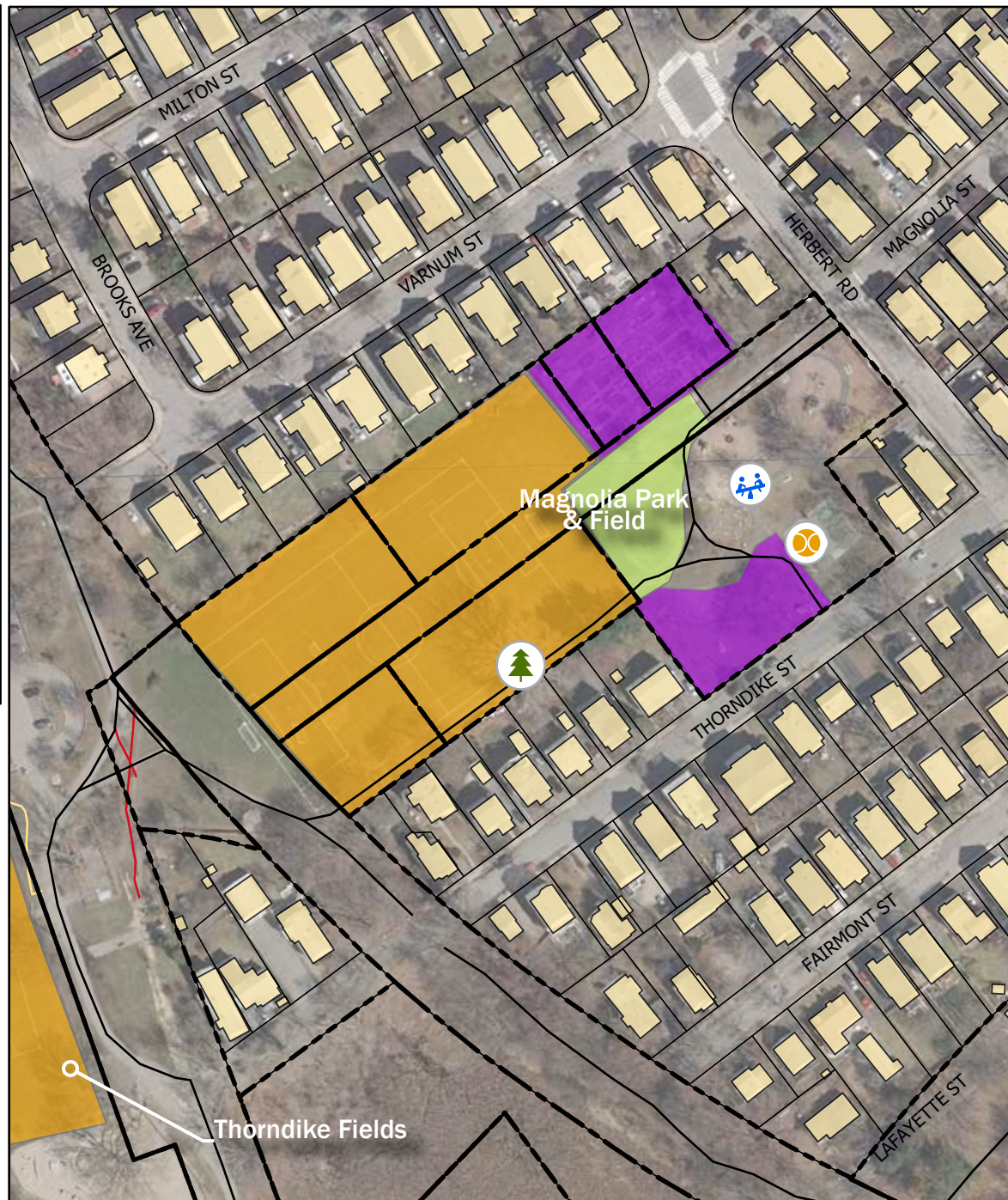


(top) Condition of fields prior to renovation

(bottom) Rain garden located off of the porous pavement parking lot

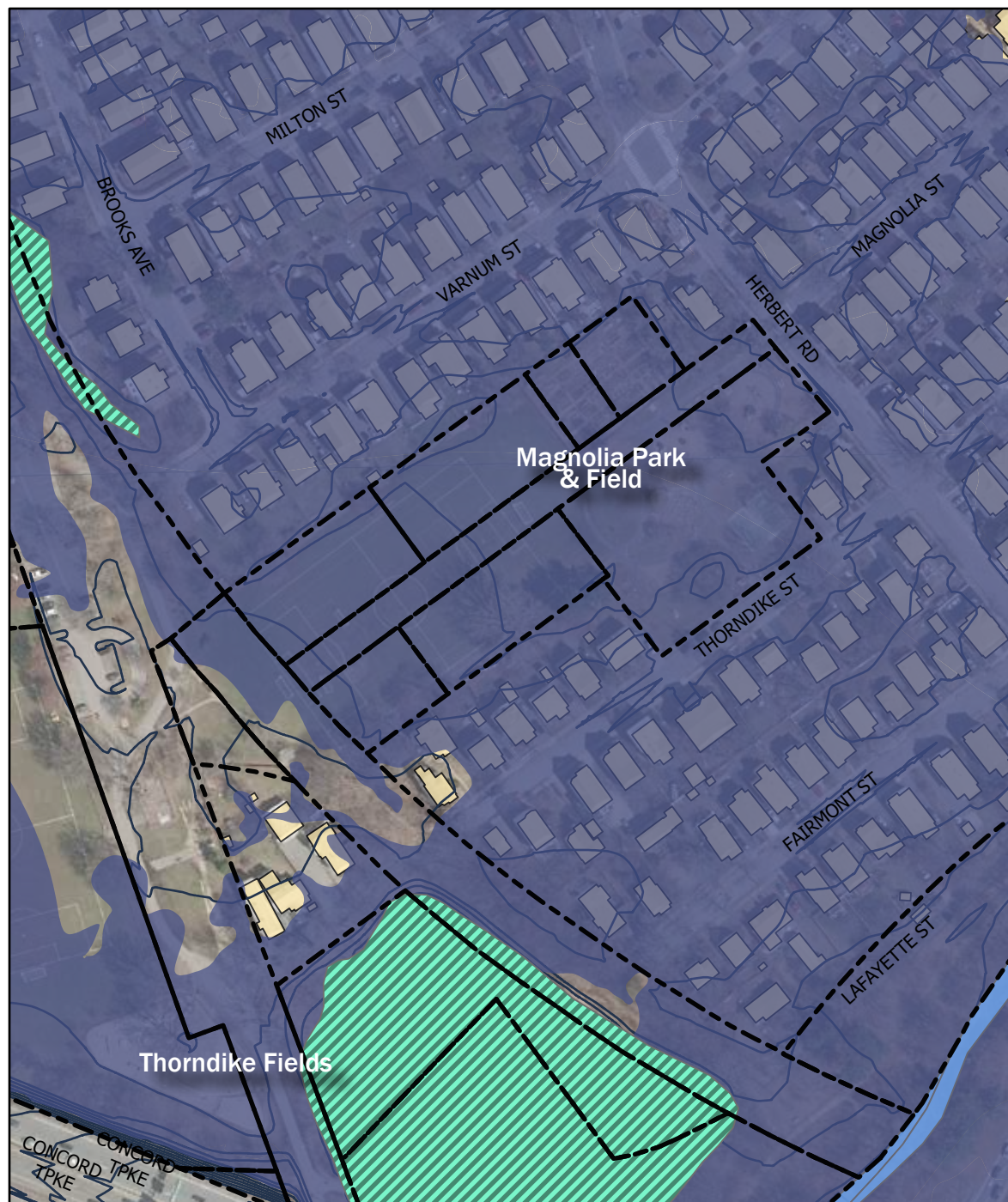
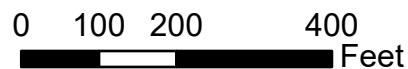
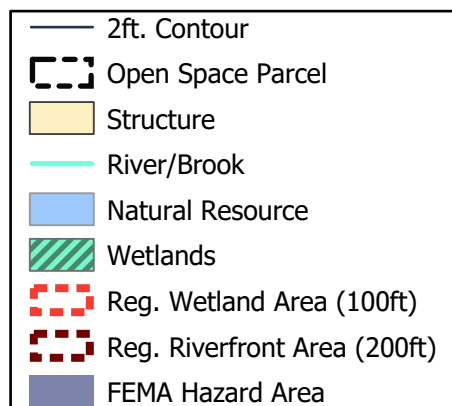


0 80 160 320 Feet



MAGNOLIA PARK & FIELD

EXISTING CONDITIONS



MAGNOLIA PARK & FIELD **JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS**

Magnolia Park & Field

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: 111 Magnolia Street PARCEL ID(s): 2-1-1, -5, & -12, 4-5-15, -18, -20 & -27 ACREAGE: 3.3
 OWNER: Town of Arlington MANAGER: Recreation Department MAINTENANCE: Department of Public Works, Contracted
 JURISDICTION: Arlington Conservation Commission

CURRENT USES

- ☐ Conservation
- ☒ Passive Recreation
- ☒ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☐ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☐ Woodlands
- ☒ Specimen trees
- ☒ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☒ Community garden
- ☐ Ornamental garden
- ☒ Native/pollinator garden
- ☐ Sports field:
 - ☒ Natural turf
 - ☐ Clay
 - ☐ Irrigation: ☐ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☐ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☐ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☒ Other: bituminous

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☒ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☐ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☒ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☒ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☐ Limited off-leash hours

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☒ Located in an EJ area
- ☐ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Magnolia Park & Field (continued)

General:

- Magnolia Park and Field is located in East Arlington, just off of the Minuteman Bikeway, across the Bikeway from Thorndike Fields, and to the northwest of Alewife Brook Parkway. It is bounded to the north by Herbert Road and to the west and east by residences along Varum and Thorndike Streets. Magnolia Park and Field is across the Bikeway from the Thorndike Off-Leash Recreation Area.

Protection status:

- The park area is protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).
- The park is zoned as open space.
- Funds/grants used to support recent projects include the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), and the Community Preservation Act (CPA)

Activities:

- Playground
- Basketball court
- Large, open field used for soccer and lacrosse
- Large community garden area (54 plots)
- Adjacent to Minuteman Bikeway
- Adjacent to Thorndike Off-Leash Recreation Area (dog park) open daily from 6am-9pm (no off-leash on fields)
- Native plant garden
- Walkways: bituminous
- Site amenities: benches, signs, picnic tables, trash cans, birdhouse, mini-library stand & drinking fountain
- Green infrastructure: rain garden near play area with

overflow structure

- Parking: accessed from Minuteman Bikeway & the Thorndike Fields parking lot

Natural resources:

- Jurisdictional wetlands:
 - Floodplain
 - Regulatory Floodway
- Located in the Alewife Brook floodplain

Cultural resources: n/a

Site history:

- 2017: Renovation of park to develop community garden, playground, multi-purpose fields, walking path and picnic area

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2022-2029 *Open Space and Recreation Plan* (OSRP), Section 5

Other notes:

- Field condition is fair with weeding and puddling at northeast end of the site (confirmed as a problem by Public Works)
- Mature trees need attention

Magnolia Park & Field (continued)

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- Parks Division of Public Works mows, stripes & maintains the field.

Contracts, current & previous:

- Included in Turf Treatment for Various Playing Fields & Mount Pleasant Cemetery contract (current bid #20-17)

Volunteer activities:

- Friends group: Friends of Magnolia Playground organizes Magnolia Park summer music series, and holiday events such as an Easter egg hunt and Halloween parade.
- Facebook group: <https://m.facebook.com/groups/FriendsofMagnoliaPark/about/>
- Boy Scouts of America
- School groups



(top) Magnolia Field

(bottom) Ponding at Magnolia Field near play area



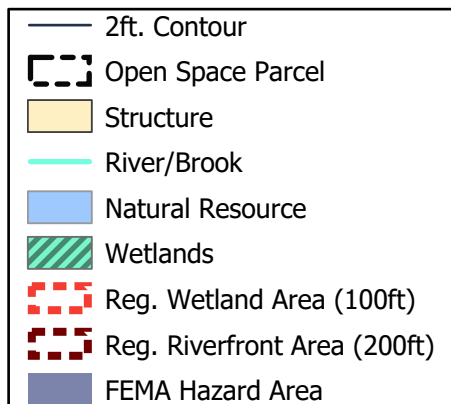
(top) Native garden at Magnolia

(bottom) Soil compaction in the play area

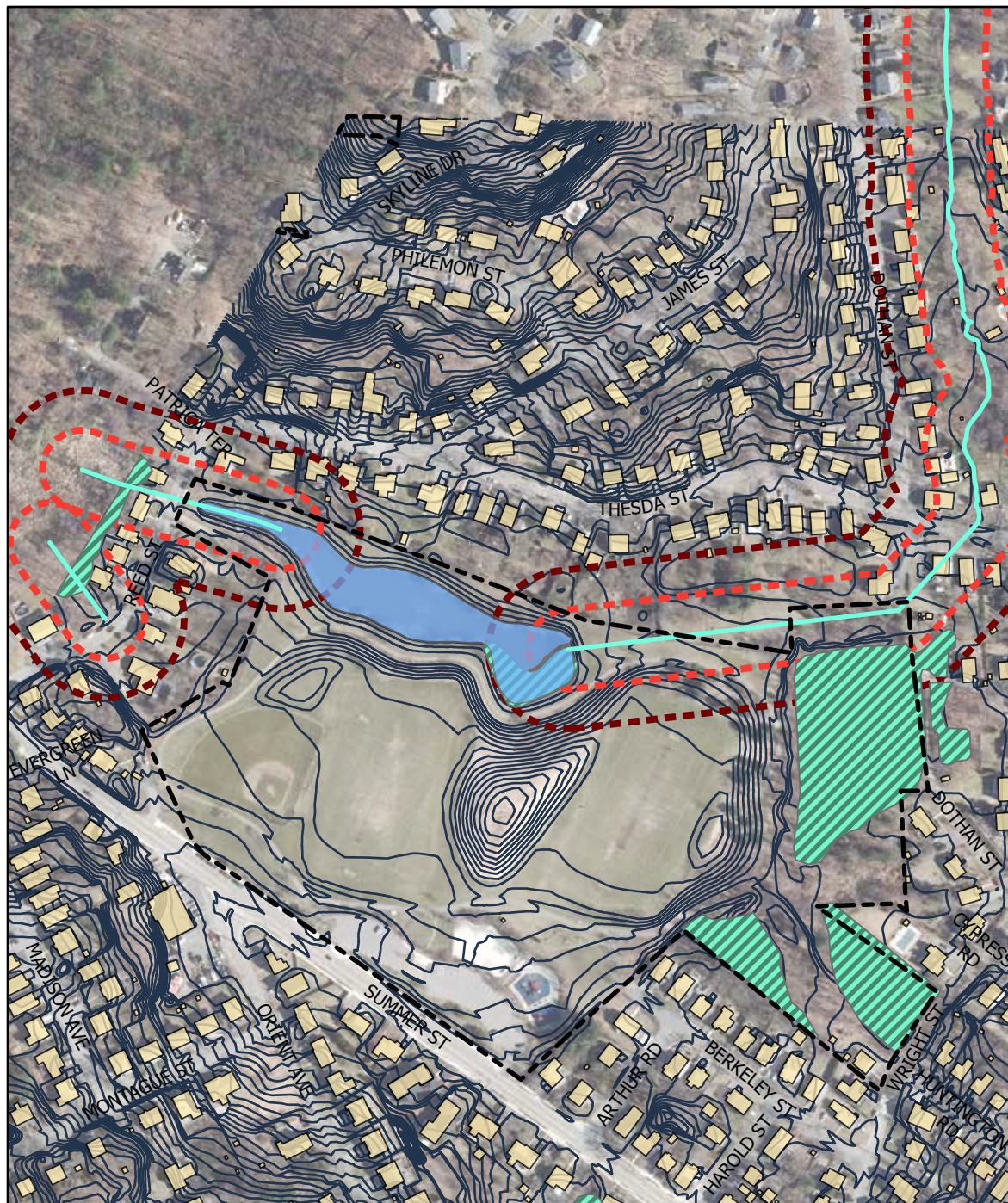


0 170 340 680
Feet





0 170 340 680 Feet



McCLENNEN PARK **JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS**

McClennen Park

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: Summer Street PARCEL ID(s): 109-2-14, 111-2-21, 112-5-20, 117-3-9 & -10 ACREAGE: 20.3
 OWNER: Town of Arlington MANAGER: Recreation Department MAINTENANCE: Department of Public Works, Contracted
 JURISDICTION: Arlington Conservation Commission, MassDEP Waterways

CURRENT USES

- ☒ Conservation
- ☒ Passive Recreation
- ☒ Active Recreation
- ☒ Flood Control
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☐ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☒ Woodlands
- ☒ Specimen trees
- ☒ Open lawn
- ☒ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☒ Sports field:
 - ☒ Natural turf
 - ☒ Clay
 - ☒ Irrigation: ☒ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☒ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☒ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☒ Other: bituminous

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☒ Retention/detention basin
- ☒ Other: floating islands

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☒ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☐ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☒ Limited off-leash hours: 6 AM - 9 AM, ends at 8:30 AM on weekends in spring and fall; no dogs off-leash at playground, baseball field, or skate park

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☒ Located in an EJ area
- ☐ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

McClennen Park (continued)

General:

- McClennen Park is located on the northeast side of Summer Street between residences along Reed Street, Thesda Street, Wright Street, Dothan Street, Berkely Street, and Arthur Street

Protection status:

- The park area is protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).
- The park is zoned as open space.
- Portions of the parcel are included in both the Inland Wetland District and the Floodplain District.

Activities:

- Playground
- Skateboard park
- Walking trails
- 2 soccer fields
- Little League field
- Walkways: stonedust and permeable pavers
- Site amenities: benches, sign, picnic tables
- Parking: off-street parking along Summer Street

Natural resources:

- Jurisdictional wetlands:
 - Regulated Wetland Area
 - Riverfront Area
- Reeds Brook runs through the site (into Reservoir & Mill

Brook) with wetlands

- Man-made retention pond for Reeds Brook
- The brook was previous culverted but after it collapsed was daylighted to help alleviate flooding from nearby neighborhoods.

Cultural resources: n/a

Site history:

- McClennen Park is one of three closed landfills in Arlington upon which parks have been constructed.
- From the 2022-2029 *Open Space and Recreation Plan* (OSRP): *The Town acquired the parcel in March 1995 from the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and converted it to a park. The park was dedicated in June 2006.*
- The park is named for Arlington Department of Planning and Community Development Director Alan McClennen, who played a significant role in capping the landfill and designing the park.

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2022-2029 *Open Space and Recreation Plan* (OSRP), Section 5
- 2021 Feasibility Study states: *There is an ADA accessible walkway to enter the skate park. Boulders were placed to separate the skate park and playground, which reduces accessibility. There is sufficient parking at the entrance to the park.*
- 2021 Field & Playground Feasibility Study (project 7) includes a conditions assessment and conceptual master plan for improvements of the skate park and adjacent lawn

McClennen Park (continued)

area. The proposed plan includes a redesigned of the skate park, the addition of a pump tracks for trikes to advanced levels.

Other notes:

- Invasive plants are an issue on site (black locust, phragmites, etc.)
- Recent improvements (2020) established buffer strip around ponds to control runoff and improve habitat
- The football field is crowned at the 50-yard line. This was a deliberate design decision by the Town to reduce earthwork when the field was laid out. As a result, the end zones are often wet after a rain event.

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- Parks Division of Public Works mows, stripes & maintains the field.
- Public Works mows the meadow on the hill only in the fall (typically in November).

Contracts, current & previous:

- Included in Turf Treatment for Various Playing Fields & Mount Pleasant Cemetery contract (current bid #20-17)

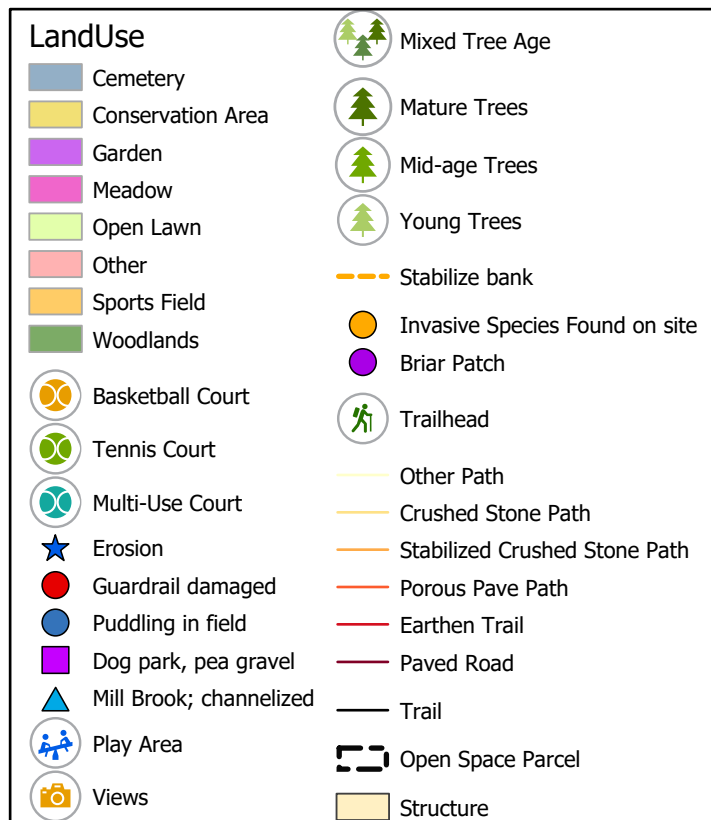
Volunteer activities:

- The Town's Water Body Working Group & Conservation Commission working on improving basin water quality; Meeting with Public Works for regular maintenance of detention basin.
- Friends group: A Friends of McClennen Skatepark Facebook group exists but there are only 6 people follow the page.
 - Additional information can be found on the Friends' facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-McClennen-Skatepark-Arlington-MA-196716431095112/>

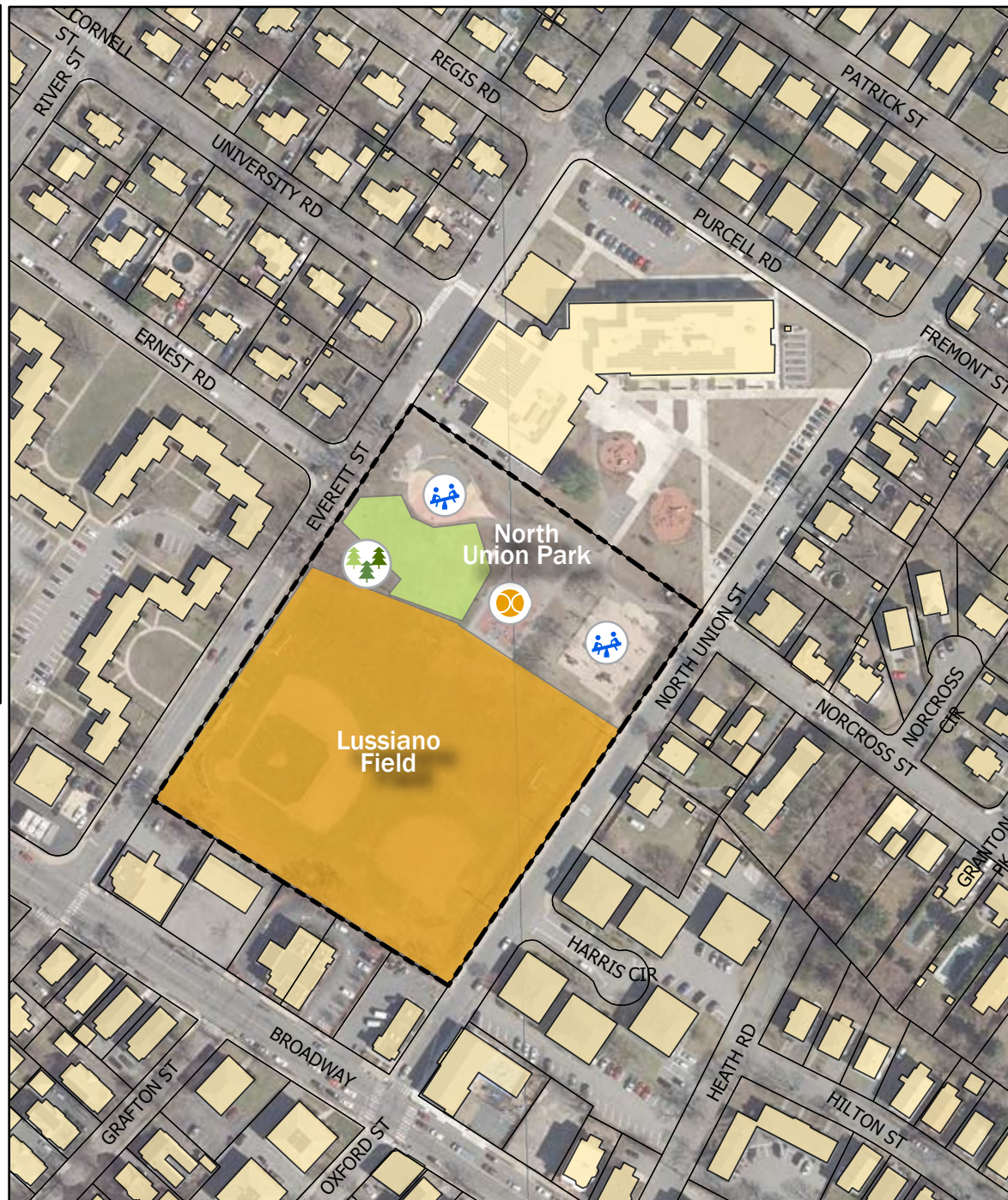


(top) Multi-use field with meadow hill in the background
(bottom) Invasive plants in edges & slopes

(top) Detention basin with floating islands
(bottom) Stonedust pathway



0 100 200 400
Feet



NORTH UNION PARK/LUSSIANO FIELD **EXISTING CONDITIONS**

North Union Park/Lussiano Field at the Thompson Elementary School

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: 60 North Union Street PARCEL ID(s): 38-2-5.A ACREAGE: 5.0
 OWNER: Town of Arlington MANAGER: Recreation Department MAINTENANCE: Department of Public Works, Contracted
 JURISDICTION: n/a

CURRENT USES

- ☐ Conservation
- ☒ Passive Recreation
- ☒ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☒ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☐ Woodlands
- ☒ Specimen trees
- ☒ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☒ Sports field:
 - ☒ Natural turf
 - ☒ Clay
 - ☐ Irrigation: ☐ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☐ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☐ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☒ Other: limited bituminous walks near playground

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☐ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☒ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☒ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☐ Limited off-leash hours

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☒ Located in an EJ area
- ☐ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

North Union Park/Lussiano Field (continued)

General:

- Located in East Arlington between Everett and North Union Street (east-west) and bounded on the south by residence along Broadway and to the north by Thompson Elementary School of Fremont Street.

Protection status:

- The field parcel is protected in perpetuity. North Union Playground is protected by Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).
- The fields are zoned open space while the school lot is zoned R-1 (single family) zoning.
- Funds/grants used to support recent projects include the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), and the Community Preservation Act (CPA), as well as other state grants secured by State Representative Sean Garballey

Activities:

- Playground
- Basketball court
- Softball/Little League field and baseball field
- Large, open field used for soccer
- Seasonal spray park/splash pad
- Site amenities: picnic tables
- Parking: on-street only

Natural resources: n/a

Cultural resources: n/a

Site history:

- 2013: Thompson Elementary School rebuilt
- 2014: Spray park renovated
- 2020: Renovation of playground

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2022-2029 *Open Space and Recreation Plan* (OSRP), Section 5
- 2019 *ADA Self-Evaluation* noted the needs to provide an accessible picnic table near the school.

Other notes:

- Relatively new playground; extremely popular
- Assume irrigation on sports field
- Turf area between basketball court & hardscape play area very worn & likely not irrigated

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- Parks Division of Public Works mows, stripes & maintains the field.

Contracts, current & previous:

- Included in Turf Treatment for Various Playing Fields & Mount Pleasant Cemetery contract (current bid #20-17)

Volunteer activities: n/a

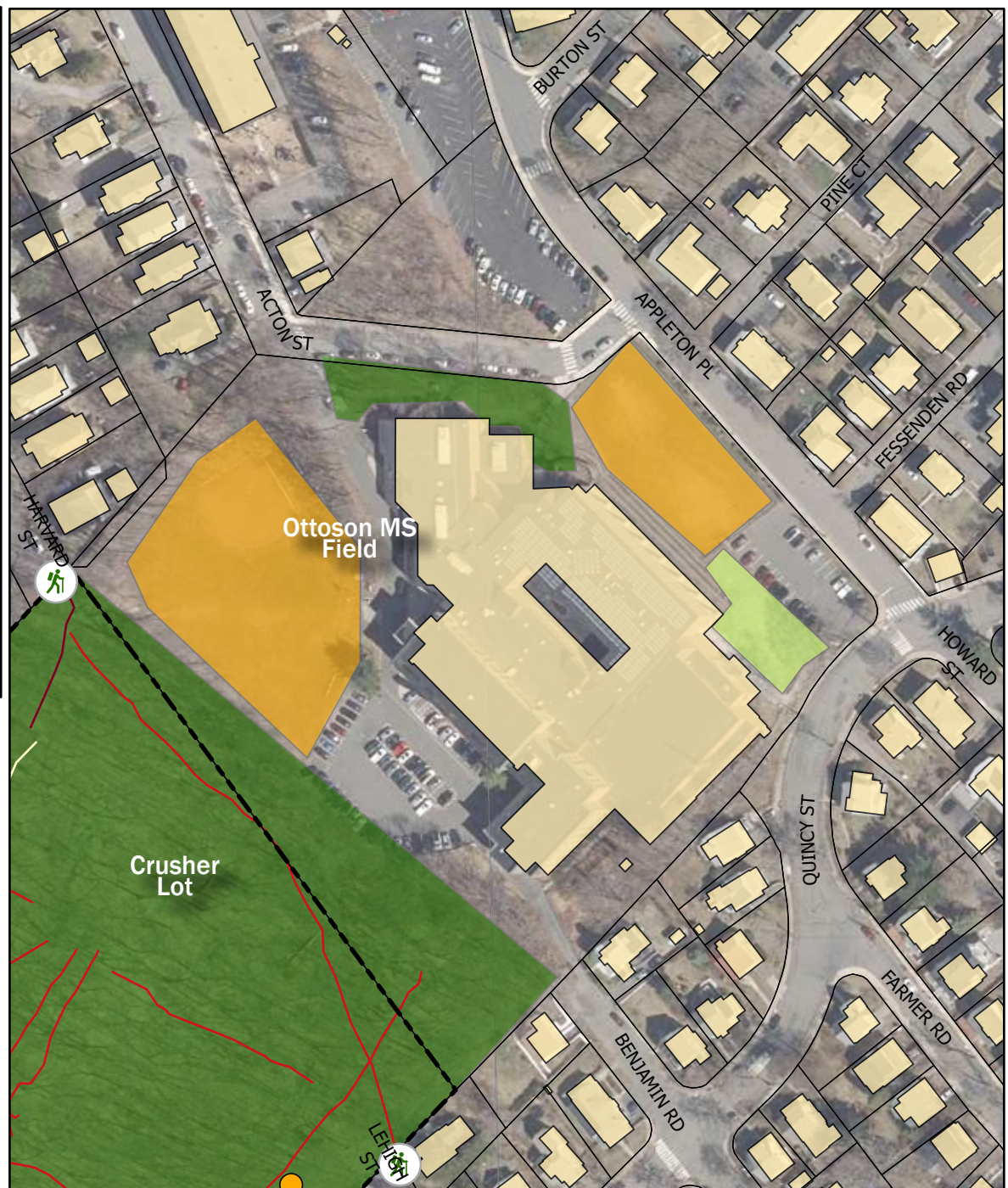


(top) Multi-use field at North union Park

(bottom) Significant mature trees at the edge of the field



0 80 160 320 Feet



OTTOSON MIDDLE SCHOOL FIELD **EXISTING CONDITIONS**

Ottoson Middle School Field

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: 63 Acton Street

PARCEL ID(s): 163-2-1.A

ACREAGE: 7.1

OWNER: Town of Arlington

MANAGER: School Department

MAINTENANCE: Contracted

JURISDICTION: n/a

CURRENT USES

- ☐ Conservation
- ☐ Passive Recreation
- ☒ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☒ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☒ Woodlands
- ☐ Specimen trees
- ☒ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☒ Sports field:
 - ☒ Natural turf
 - ☒ Clay
 - ☐ Irrigation: ☐ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☒ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☐ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☐ Other

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☐ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☒ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☒ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☐ Limited off-leash hours

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☒ Located in an EJ area
- ☐ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Ottoson Middle School Field (continued)

General:

- Located in Arlington Heights, the middle school is located on Appleton Place. Directly to the southwest is the Crusher Lot. A spur off Acton Street dead ends into the school's parking lot.
- Permitted/scheduled by the Recreation Department
- Maintained by Department of Public Works

Protection status:

- As part of the school, this parcel is zoned as R-1 (single family residential).

Activities:

- Softball/little league field behind school
- Practice area in front on Acton Street
- Site amenities: players' bench at ball field
- Parking: 2 small off-street lots for school, one between school and conservation area & another on the corner of Appleton and Quincy Streets

Natural resources: n/a

Cultural resources: n/a

Site history:

- The Ottoson Middle School serves Arlington students in the seventh and eighth grades. It was originally dedicated in 1921.

Site-specific planning reports/documentation: n/a

Other notes:

- Ball field has an access ramp from the parking lot and stairs from street
- Buffers of woodlands need management, especially along Acton Street where slope is degraded & eroded
- Practice field on Appleton Street very well worn, assume no irrigation
- Sidewalk leading to ball field crossing Acton Street dead ends, and social trail follows the grade down to the school creating accessibility issues; significant erosion

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- Parks Division of Public Works mows, stripes & maintains the field.

Contracts, current & previous:

- Included in Turf Treatment for Various Playing Fields & Mount Pleasant Cemetery contract (current bid #20-17)

Volunteer activities: n/a



Wooded slope & social trail along Acton Street



*(top) Multi-use field to the north of the school building
(bottom) Ball field between Ottoson MS & the Crusher Lot*



0 50 100 200 Feet



PARALLEL PARK EXISTING CONDITIONS

Parallel Park

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: Medford Street

PARCEL ID(s): 48-7-1.A

ACREAGE: 1.2

OWNER: Mass. Department of Conservation, leased to Town of Arlington

MANAGER: Recreation Department

MAINTENANCE: Contracted

JURISDICTION: n/a

CURRENT USES

- ☐ Conservation
- ☒ Passive Recreation
- ☒ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☐ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☒ Woodlands
- ☒ Specimen trees
- ☒ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☐ Sports field:
 - ☐ Natural turf
 - ☐ Clay
 - ☐ Irrigation: ☐ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☐ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☐ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☒ Other: bituminous

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☐ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☒ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☒ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☐ Limited off-leash hours

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☒ Located in an EJ area
- ☐ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Parallel Park (continued)

General:

- Parallel Park is near the northeast border of Arlington just off the Mystic River and south of Lower Mystic Lake. It is bounded by Mystic Valley Parkway, Medford Street, and Parallel Street to the south.

Protection status:

- The field parcel is protected in perpetuity. North Union Playground is protected by Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).
- The park is zoned as open space.
- The fields are zoned open space while the school lot is zoned R-1 (single family) zoning.
- A very small portion of this parcel are included in the Floodplain District.
- Funds/grants used to support recent projects include the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

Activities:

- Playground
- Basketball court
- Site amenities: trash, benches, picnic tables, drinking fountain
- Parking: on-street parking only

Natural resources:

- Jurisdictional wetlands:
 - Riverfront Area

Cultural resources: n/a

Site history: n/a

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2021 Field & Playground Feasibility Study (project 11) includes a conditions assessment and conceptual master plan for the playground and courts. The study notes the need for accessibility improvements. An accessible walkway extends from Parallel Street entrance to the south end of the site but does not connect the playground or the basketball court. The conceptual master plan includes a new play area, half-court basketball, picnic grove, walkways, lawn area, etc.

Other notes:

- Lawn area on south side in poor turf condition and heavily worn
- Turf to the north in fair condition
- Heavily tree around buffer (compared to other parks in town) in fair condition but need attention. Provide good shade to park areas.

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- Trash pick-up only

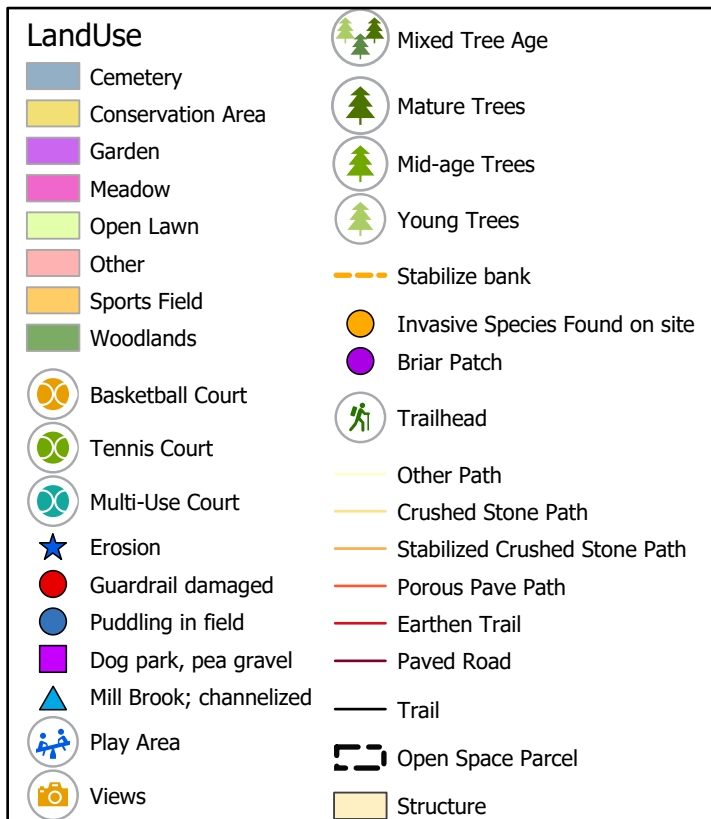
Contracts, current & previous:

- Included in Mowing & Lawn Maintenance of Public Lands contract (current bid #20-16)

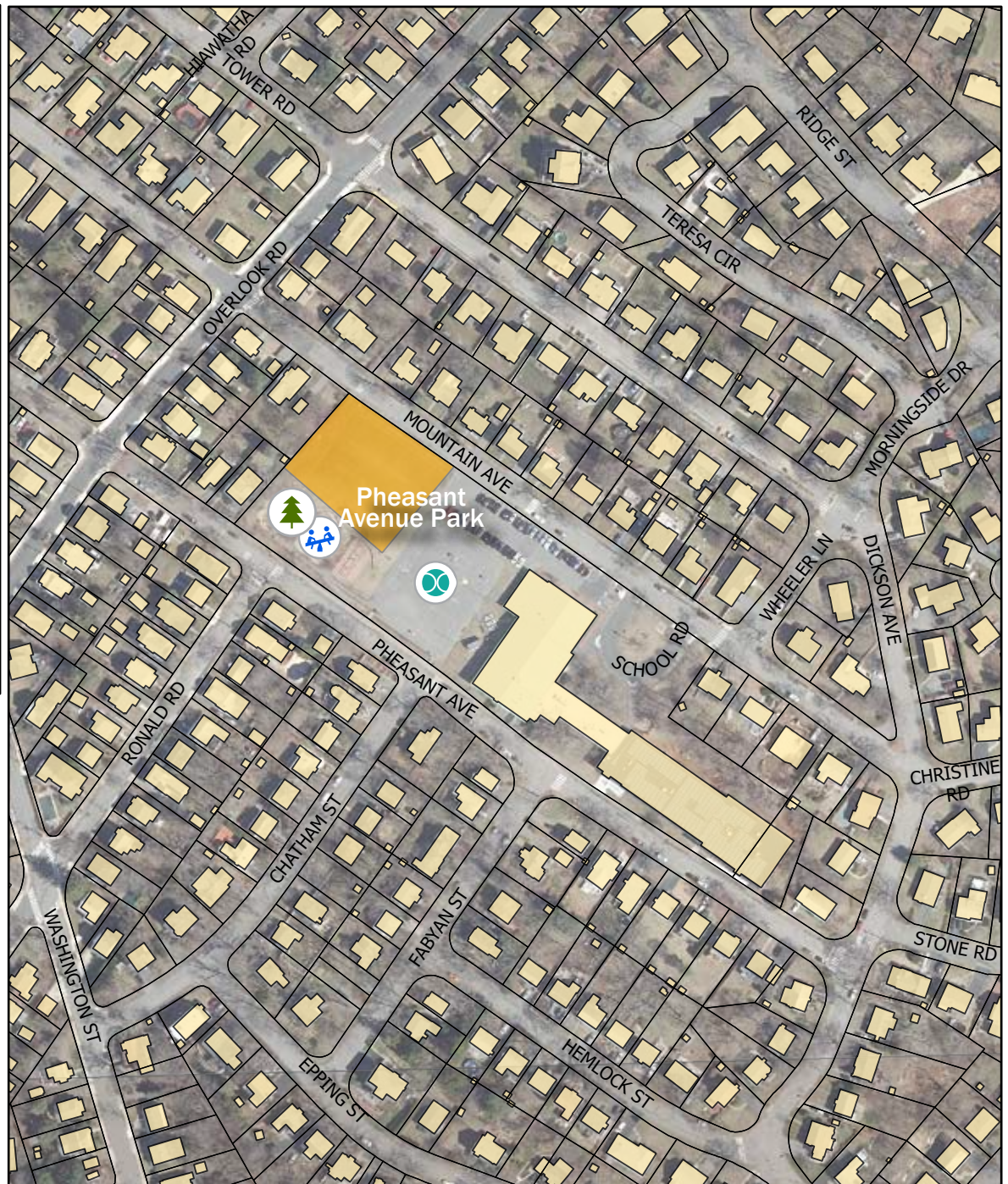
Volunteer activities: n/a



(top) Entrance from Parallel Street with accessible walks
(bottom) Open lawn & basketball court near Mystic Valley Parkway



0 125 250 500
Feet



PHEASANT AVENUE PARK/GREELEY PLAYGROUND **EXISTING CONDITIONS**

Pheasant Avenue Park/Greeley Playground at the Stratton Elementary School

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: 180 Mountain Avenue PARCEL ID(s): 102-3-1 ACREAGE: 4.1
 OWNER: Town of Arlington MANAGER: Recreation Department MAINTENANCE: Department of Public Works, Contracted
 JURISDICTION: n/a

CURRENT USES

- ☐ Conservation
- ☒ Passive Recreation
- ☒ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☒ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☐ Woodlands
- ☒ Specimen trees
- ☒ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☒ Sports field:
 - ☒ Natural turf
 - ☐ Clay
 - ☐ Irrigation: ☐ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☐ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☐ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☒ Other: bituminous

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☐ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☐ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☒ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☐ Limited off-leash hours

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☐ Located in an EJ area
- ☐ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Pheasant Avenue Park (continued)

General:

- Mary Anne Greeley Playground/Pheasant Avenue Park is located due west of the Stratton School and is bounded to the north by Mountain Avenue and to the south by Pheasant Avenue; to the west are residences of Overlook Road.

Protection status:

- The parcel is protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).
- Unlike other parcels, the play & field area is within the school parcel which is zoned R-1 (single family residential).
- Funds/grants used to support recent projects include the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and the Community Preservation Act (CPA),

Activities:

- Playground
- Large hard surface (bituminous) for basketball, foursquare, hopscotch, education play (USA map), etc.
- Small amphitheatre
- Site amenities: benches and picnic tables
- Parking: Limited off-street parking at school on Mountain Avenue; available after 3pm

Natural resources:

- Wooded buffer edge between play area & rear yards of Overlook Road residences. Trees in fair condition, need pruning.

Cultural resources: n/a

Site history:

- New playground installed in 2022

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2019 ADA Self-Evaluation noted the need to renovate exterior access route, to provide an accessible route to the playground swings, and to provide an accessible route to the bike racks

Other notes:

- Sloped lawn near paved area at school
- ADA access to play area from Pheasant Ave

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- Parks Division of Public Works mows, stripes & maintains the field.

Contracts, current & previous:

- Included in Turf Treatment for Various Playing Fields & Mount Pleasant Cemetery contract (current bid #20-17)

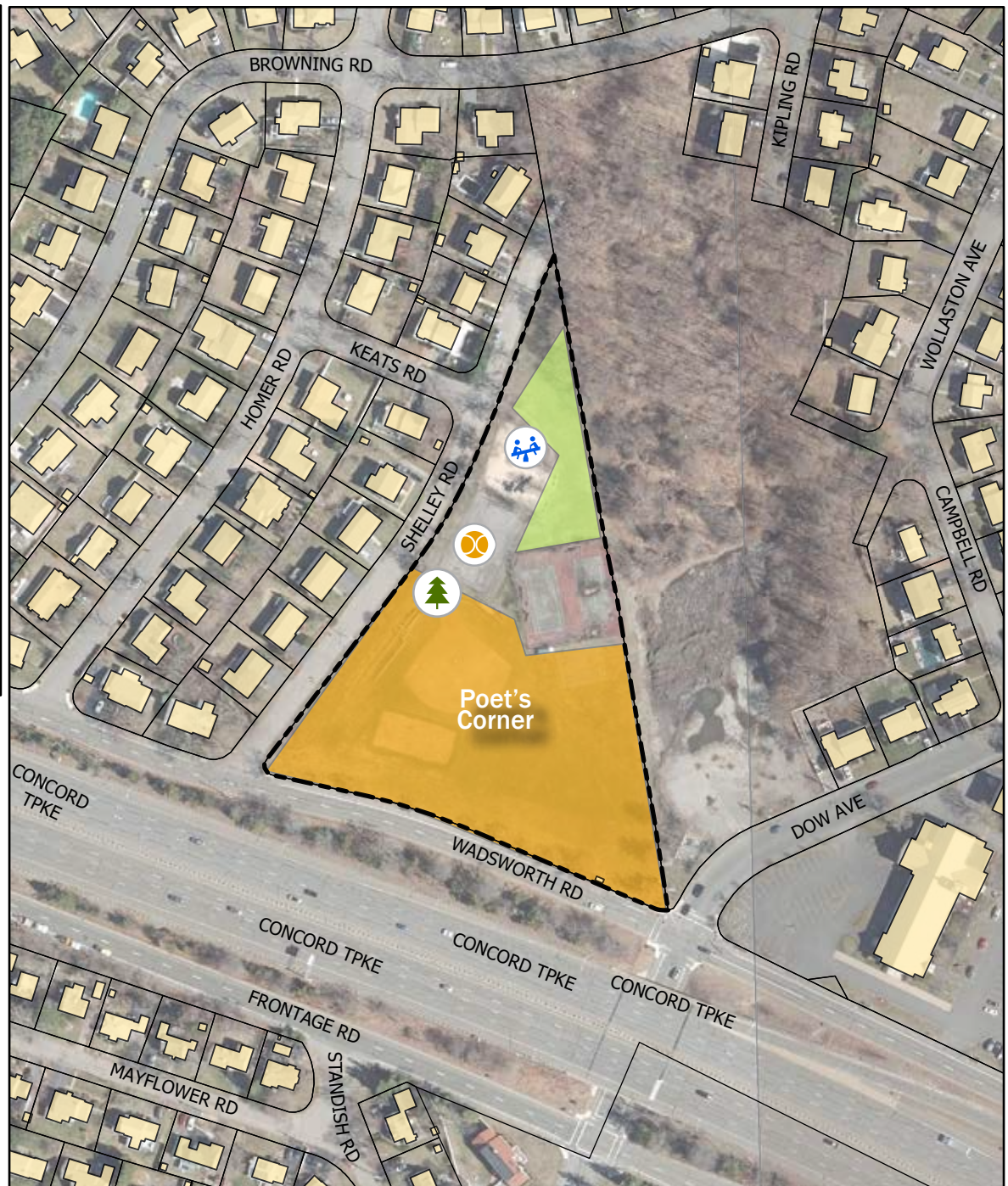
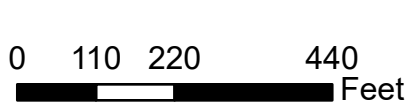
Volunteer activities:

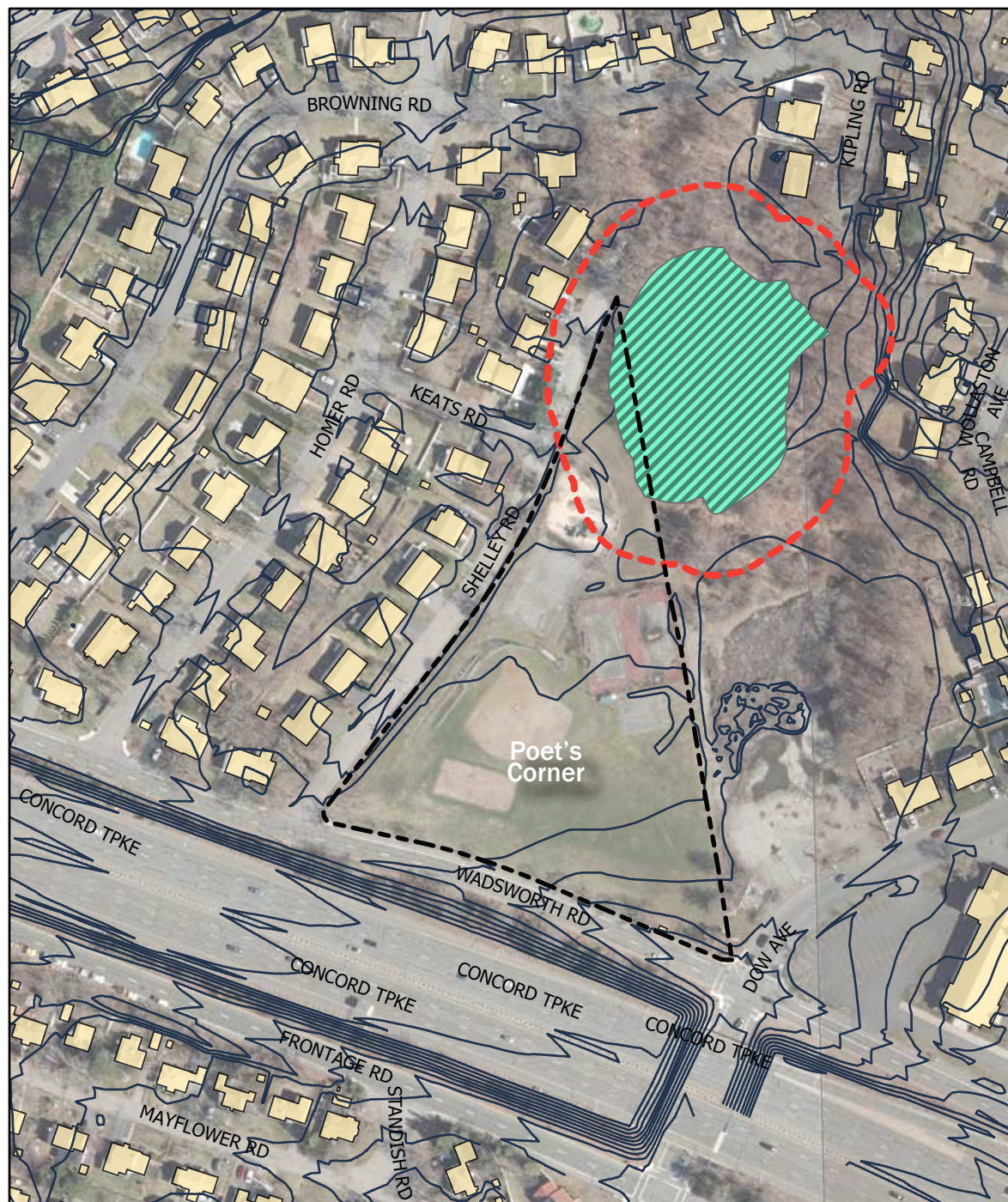
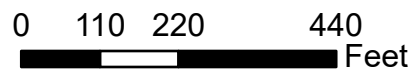
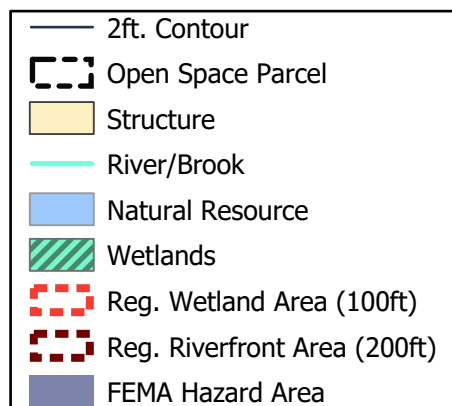
- Friends group: Friends of Greeley Park at Stratton—unclear if the group is active



(top) Multi-use rectilinear field on Mountain Street

(bottom) Access to play area & field from Pleasant Avenue





POET'S CORNER JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS

Poet's Corner

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: 175 Dow Avenue

PARCEL ID(s): 181-8-1.A

ACREAGE: 3.7

OWNER: Town of Arlington

MANAGER: Recreation Department

MAINTENANCE: Department of Public Works, Contracted

JURISDICTION: Arlington Conservation Commission

CURRENT USES

- ☐ Conservation
- ☐ Passive Recreation
- ☒ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☐ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☒ Woodlands
- ☒ Specimen trees
- ☒ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☒ Sports field:
 - ☒ Natural turf
 - ☒ Clay
 - ☐ Irrigation: ☐ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☐ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☐ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☒ Other: bituminous (limited)

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☒ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☐ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☒ Limited off-leash hours: 6 AM - 9 AM, ends at 8:30 AM on Saturdays in spring and fall

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☐ Located in an EJ area
- ☒ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Poet's Corner (continued)

General:

- Bordered on south side by Wadsworth Road (which parallels Route 2), on the west by Shelley Road, and on the east by wetlands/woodlands and empty lot.

Protection status:

- The park area is protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).
- The park is zoned as open space.
- Portions of the parcel are included in the Inland Wetland District.
- Funds/grants used to support recent projects include the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), and the Community Preservation Act (CPA)

Activities:

- Playground
- Softball/little league field
- Basketball courts
- Remnant gravel surface from removed tennis courts
- Bituminous walks connect play area and basketball court to Shelley Street
- Site amenities: benches at playground, Portable batting cages set up by leagues in season
- Parking: on-street only

Natural resources:

- Jurisdictional wetlands:
 - Wetland
 - Regulated Wetland Area (100 feet)

Cultural resources:

- Adjacent to undeveloped parcel (parking) belonging to Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston.

Site history:

- This is one of three fields in Arlington that was converted from a landfill.
- 2022: Planning project for field and playground renovations, as well as other improvements

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2022-2029 *Open Space and Recreation Plan* (OSRP), Section 5
- Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) plan, 2018: suggests acquiring adjacent lands for snow & flood storage
- 2021 *Field & Playground Feasibility Study* (project 6): provides a conditions assessment and conceptual recommendations. It also notes accessibility improvements are needed and notes poor drainage of field. The Study provides a conceptual master plan for the redesign of the entire park.

Other notes:

- Invasive species issue
- Partially used for snow dumping

Poet's Corner (continued)

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- Parks Division of Public Works mows, stripes, and maintains the field.

Contracts, current & previous:

- Included in Turf Treatment for Various Playing Fields & Mount Pleasant Cemetery contract (current bid #20-17)

Volunteer activities: n/a



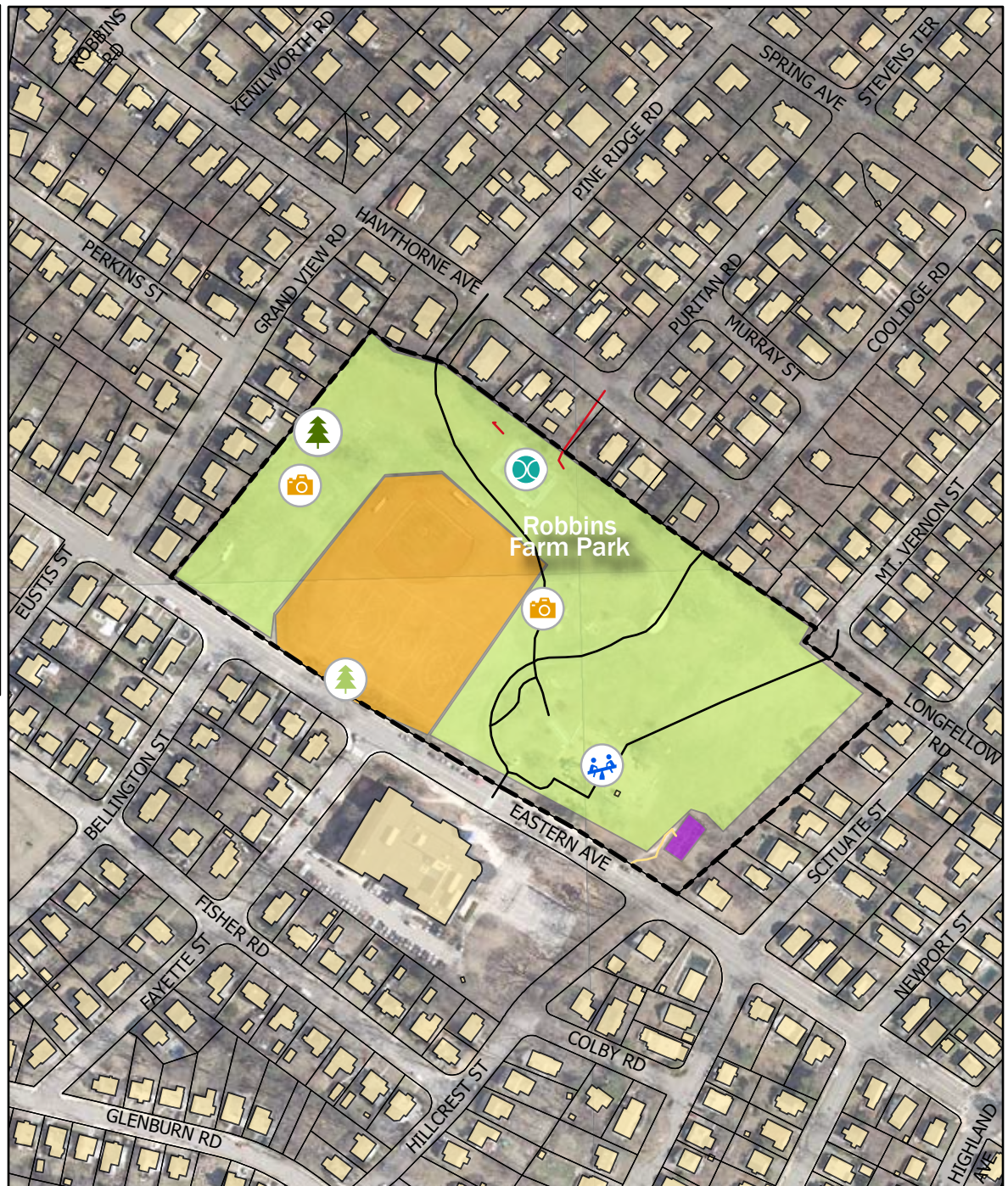
(top) Multi-use field with ball field in the background
(bottom) Remnant of tennis courts at Poet's Corner



*(top) Paved walkway leading toward wetland area
(bottom) Ball field, basketball court & muddied field area*



0 140 280 560
Feet



ROBBINS FARM PARK EXISTING CONDITIONS

Robbins Farm Park

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: 67 Eastern Avenue

PARCEL ID(s): 147-8-11

ACREAGE: 11.1

OWNER: Town of Arlington

MANAGER: Recreation Department

MAINTENANCE: Department of Public Works, Contracted

JURISDICTION: n/a

CURRENT USES

- ☐ Conservation
- ☒ Passive Recreation
- ☒ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☒ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☒ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☐ Woodlands
- ☒ Specimen trees
- ☒ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☒ Community garden
- ☐ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☒ Sports field:
 - ☒ Natural turf
 - ☒ Clay
 - ☒ Irrigation: ☒ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☐ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☒ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☒ Other: bituminous

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other:

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☐ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☒ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☐ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☒ Limited off-leash hours: 6 AM - 7:45 AM and 8:30 AM - 9 AM weekdays, Sept. 1 - June 30 only; unless no permitted activity, then behind the backstop only

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☐ Located in an EJ area
- ☒ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Robbins Farm Park (continued)

General:

- The park is bordered on three sides by residential homes, which are sited on Grand View Road, Hawthorne Avenue, Longfellow Road and Scituate Street. The westerly side is bordered entirely by Eastern Avenue.
- From the 2009 Open Space Management Plan: Scheduled use of the sports and events facilities, such as the ball field and soccer field, is set by the Arlington Recreation Department (ARD).
- Public Works is responsible for reporting on existing conditions. Enhancements, improvements and usage programs are planned and coordinated by the Recreation Department with the input and approval of the Park and Recreation Commission.

Protection status:

- The park is protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).
- The park is zoned open space.
- Funds/grants used to support recent projects include the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and the Community Preservation Act (CPA)

Activities:

- The overview area has remarkable views of Boston and the surrounding area
- Two hills are used for sledding: one along Eastern Avenue and the other starting from the top of Boston Hill.
- *A children's playground and tot lot with equipment designed for children from age 2-to-12 is a major feature of the park. Twin slides that are built along the hillside*

following the contours of the land are a unique attraction.

- Baseball diamond (irrigated)
- Pickleball court
- Large, open lawn multi-use field
- No formal tournaments due to dimensional limitations
- Robbins Farm Learning Garden: a cooperative community garden created as an educational resource carrying on the agricultural heritage of the property.
- Programmed events such as summertime movies in the park, Independence Day celebrations and other activities
- Walkways are mostly bituminous, save for crushed stone walkway at community garden
- Site amenities include benches, trash receptacles, picnic tables, bike racks, signage & public art
- Parking: on-street

Natural resources:

- Many trees have been planted and are being maintained within the park and along its perimeter.

Cultural resources:

- Historical truck (produce) farm prior to the Town's purchase of the property.
- The site was originally designed by the Olmsted Brothers landscape architecture firm of Brookline.
- Summertime movies in the park, and Independence Day celebrations held in the park.
- Educational community garden

Robbins Farm Park (continued)

Site history:

- From 1880, the land was farmed by six generations of the Robbins family, beginning in the eighteenth century. It was taken by eminent domain by the Town of Arlington in 1942.
- The site was originally designed by the Olmsted Brothers landscape architecture firm of Brookline.
- 1999-2000: the Friends group worked with students from the Radcliffe Seminar program in landscape design to create a master plan.
- 2017-2019: Rehabilitation of playing fields, sculpture, community garden, and accessibility improvements

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2022-2029 *Open Space and Recreation Plan* (OSRP), Section 5
- *Arlington Open Space Management Plan*, October 2009
- 2021 *Field & Playground Feasibility Study* (projects 3 and 4) includes a conditions assessment and conceptual master plan for both the hill slide and the playground.

Other notes:

- From 2015-2022 *Open Space and Recreation Plan*: *Restoration work undertaken in 2003 included updated slides, new paths and play equipment, plantings, and replacement of the old tennis courts with an overlook space.*
- Slides were rebuilt again in 2012 and are due for another repair/replacement; currently taped off from access
- Very limited accessibility routes in park
- Slides taped off from access

- Social trail to north leading to neighborhood (on private property)

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- Parks Division of Public Works mows, stripes & maintains the field.

Contracts, current & previous:

- Included in Turf Treatment for Various Playing Fields & Mount Pleasant Cemetery contract (current bid #20-17)

Volunteer activities:

- Friends group: Friends of Robbins Farm Park (FoRFP): www.robbsfarmpark.org
 - From the 2009 Open Space Management Plan: *The Friends of Robbins Farm Park (FoRFP) is the primary citizens group overseeing the park. Incorporated in 1998, the FoRFP work closely with the DPW, ARD and PRC to protect the park and promote use by all. A number of events are held during the year, including an Annual Meeting/Field Day, a July 4th celebration with broadcast of the Boston Pops concert, "movie nights" and Boston baseball night. (See Robbins Farm – Arlington Massachusetts A Local History, Oakes Plimpton, 2nd edition, 1995)*
 - *The FoRFP have contributed time and funding toward a program to make portable restroom facilities available to users of the park, and they coordinate "clean-up days" throughout the year.*

Robbins Farm Park (continued)

- *The Friends of Robbins Farm Park (FoRFP) is a community organization formed to promote the beautification, restoration, and improvement of the Robbins Farm Park located along Eastern Avenue in Arlington Heights, Massachusetts. We sponsor and promote cultural, educational, recreational, and other community activities throughout the year. We invite active membership in the organization and seek to represent the Robbins Farm Park community.*
- Friends group coordinates clean-up days through the year, typically 2-3 per year
- Friends of Robbins Farm Gardens:
 - www.robbsfarmgarden.org
 - *Robbins Farm Garden is a cooperative community garden project at Robbins Farm Park in Arlington, MA. Since 2010, we've grown vegetables organically as a group, created an educational resource in the community and continued the agricultural tradition of the farm at the park. We garden Saturday mornings April through November and Tuesday evenings June through September. The project is run through Arlington's Recreation Department.*



(top) Ball field, open lawn & views of the Boston skyline
(bottom) Community garden at Robbins Farm Park

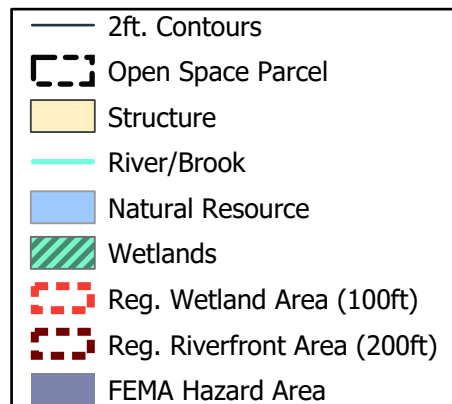


0 205 410 820 Feet



SPY POND PARK & SCANNELL FIELD

EXISTING CONDITIONS



0 205 410 820 Feet



SPY POND PARK & SCANNELL FIELD **JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS**

Spy Pond Park & Scannell Field

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: Pond Lane & Linwood Street PARCEL ID(s): 9-2-2.A, 9-3-1, 9-4-1, 10-3-8, & 10-5-11.A ACREAGE: 15.0
 OWNER: Town of Arlington MANAGER: Recreation Department MAINTENANCE: Contracted
 JURISDICTION: Arlington Conservation Commission, MassDEP Waterways

CURRENT USES

- ☒ Conservation
- ☒ Passive Recreation
- ☒ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☐ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☒ Woodlands
- ☒ Specimen trees
- ☒ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☒ Sports field:
 - ☒ Natural turf
 - ☒ Clay
 - ☒ Irrigation: ☒ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☒ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☐ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☒ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☒ Other: bituminous at Spy Pond Field

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☒ Porous pavement
- ☒ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☒ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Upland
- ☒ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☒ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☐ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☒ Limited off-leash hours: 6 AM - 9 AM, ends at 8:30 AM on Saturdays in spring and fall; No off-leash dogs at Scannell Field

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☐ Located in an EJ area
- ☒ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Spy Pond Park & Scannell Field (continued)

General:

- Spy Pond Park is a series of parcels located between the Minuteman Bikeway and Spy Pond; that includes the playground and Scannell Field. Another ball field and tennis courts are bordered by Lombard Terrace, Wellington Street and Pond Lane.
- The Department of Public Works Pond controls the water level by the outflow structure owned by MassDOT.
- The Arlington Land Trust manages Elizabeth Island, which sits in Spy Pond, for passive recreation.
- Renovations to the playground and pedestrian water access (upgraded with porous pavement) to be completed in fall 2022.

Protection status:

- The park area is protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).
- The park is zoned as open space.
- Funds/grants used to support recent projects include the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Community Preservation Act (CPA), and the Mass Audubon Judy Record Conservation Fund

Activities:

- Playground (To be renovated in summer/fall 2022)
- Boat ramp for small-crafts, including the Arlington-Belmont Crew club
- Adjacent to the Minuteman Bikeway

- Walking
- Birdwatching
- Picnicking
- Fishing
- Pedestrian access ramp to water
- Wooden overlook on pond
- Spy Pond Field:
 - Baseball diamond
 - Little League field
 - Grandstands
 - Large open field
 - Five tennis courts, 2 lined for pickleball
- Scannell Field:
 - Softball/little league field
 - Stands
 - Site amenities: port-a-potty, benches, bike rack, picnic tables, signage, deck overlook, drinking fountain & players' benches at Scannell Field
 - Parking: limited off-street parking

Natural resources:

- Jurisdictional wetlands:
 - Regulated Wetland Area
- Spy Pond, a Massachusetts Great Pond
- Uniquely, Spy Pond is not fed by any river or brook but fed primarily by stormwater.
- Spy Pond suffers from water quality issues, including

Spy Pond Park & Scannell Field (continued)

eutrophication (nutrient loading from surrounding properties & low oxygen levels), contaminants & algae, as well as invasive aquatic and shoreline plants.

- Spy Pond's bank vegetation includes a plant species identified by the NHESP as endangered (Engelmann's sedge).
- Sedimentation and contaminant issues of sand from Route 2 storm drain.

Cultural resources:

- In 1959, a fisherman pulled a mastodon tusk out of Spy Pond. It is assumed to be approximately 42,000 years old.
- Early business in Arlington was ice harvesting on Spy Pond; this occurred from the 1840s until 1930.
- Battles of Lexington and Concord: Spy Pond had a role in the first battle in America's War for Independence on April 19, 1775.

Site history:

- 1910: Play Fair Arch, bleachers and field house constructed
- 2015: Tennis court renovations undertaken
- 2016: Spy Pond Edge and Erosion Control Project which included shoreline stabilization, invasive species removal, bank revegetation, ADA-compliant and permeable pathway and wood overlook

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2022-2029 *Open Space and Recreation Plan* (OSRP), Section 5
- *Open Space Land Management Plan(s)* provided for both

Spy Pond and Spy Pond Park, January 2009

- 2016 *Spy Pond Edge and Erosion Control Feasibility Study*
- 2019 *ADA Self-Evaluation* states Field House entrance surface should be renovated for accessibility.
- 2021 *Field & Playground Feasibility Study* (projects 1 and 8) provides a conditions assessment and conceptual recommendations. It also recommends accessibility improvements to Scannell Field and notes poor-draining soils and high compaction create a low infiltration rate for the field. The conceptual master plan recommends conversion of underused lawn areas to be converted to meadow areas, updating walkways, and accessibility improvements to the field & its amenities. Additionally, the plan recommends interpretation of the ice house foundation.
- Arlington Conservation Commission (DEP #091-0339) for the 2022 playground improvement project

Other notes:

- Geese tend to be a problem in the park.
- Runoff/erosion from bike path and shoreline erosion at the two ends of the park.
- Significant invasive plant issue which can impact recreational use (boating and fishing).
- Recent dredging (2021) by MassDOT to remove sand buildup on west side.
- The Town has worked with Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Lakes and Ponds Program. From the website: *The Lakes and Ponds Program works primarily in the DCR State Park system to protect,*

Spy Pond Park & Scannell Field (continued)

manage and restore valuable aquatic resources. We also provide technical assistance to communities and citizen groups as well as provide educational materials to the public about lake issues.

- Historical contamination & non-point source pollution contribute to invasive species.
- DPW recently installed hydrodynamic separator at Alfred Road
- Fencing along pond edge to protect bank, except where shallow, with lots of trash in water.
- Pond bank at Scannell Field is heavily wooded and needs improvement.
- Spy Pond Field has erosion issues along slope from Lombard Terrace, puddling in fields, and clogged existing drainage structures.
- CPA funded a study of the existing bleachers located at Spy Pond Field
- Signage:
 - *Feeding the geese is against the law and subject to a \$100 fine. Defacing or removing the sign is against the law and subject to arrest.*
 - *No swimming*

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- Trash pickup only

Contracts, current & previous:

- Included in Mowing & Lawn Maintenance of Public Lands

contract (current bid #20-16)

- Included in Turf Treatment for Various Playing Fields & Mount Pleasant Cemetery contract (current bid #20-17)
- Spy Pond managed by Water Bodies group for algae and aquatic invasive plant species. Conservation Commission manages the annual contract, which lasts for three years.
- Porous walkway under contract to be vacuumed once per year.

Volunteer activities:

- Friends group: Friends of Spy Pond Park (FSPP) supports “the ongoing protection & improvements to and beautification of the park; the use of the park as a community recreational and cultural resource.” Also, the Friends help with prevention and reduction of pond pollution and weed control, and the preservation of open green space and wildlife.
 - <https://friendsofspypondpark.org/>
- FSPP hold regular cleanup days (typically once per month from May-October. Also, annual Fun Day in September with children’s activities
- Spy Pond Committee of Envision Arlington involved with pond improvements, including water quality and weed control

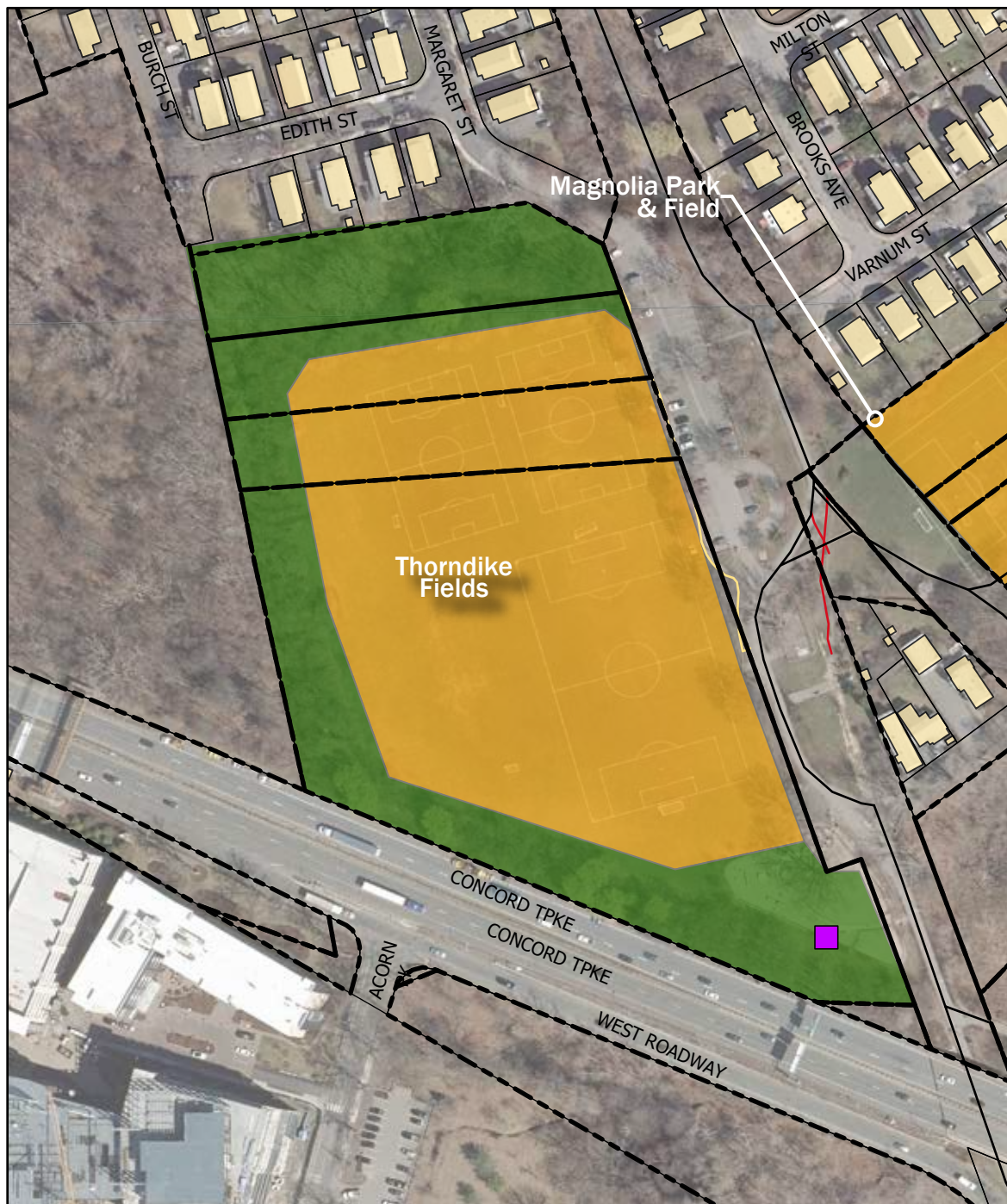


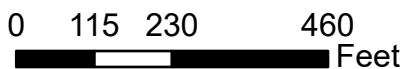
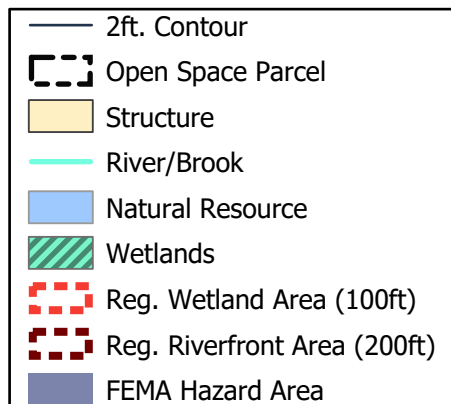
(top) Porous pavement walkway along Spy Pond
(bottom) Vegetated bank & protective fencing at Spy Pond

(top) Rain garden near the play area
(bottom) Scannell Field



0 100 200 400
Feet





THORNDIKE FIELDS **JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS**

Thorndike Fields

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: 99 Margaret Street PARCEL ID(s): 14-2-6 & -7 & 15-3-1.A ACREAGE: 9.67
 OWNER: Town of Arlington MANAGER: Recreation Department MAINTENANCE: Department of Public Works, Contracted
 JURISDICTION: Arlington Conservation Commission, MassDEP Waterways

CURRENT USES

- ☐ Conservation
- ☐ Passive Recreation
- ☒ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☐ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☒ Woodlands
- ☐ Specimen trees
- ☐ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☒ Sports field:
 - ☒ Natural turf
 - ☐ Clay
 - ☐ Irrigation: ☐ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☐ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☒ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☐ Other

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☒ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☒ Other: geo-grid (plastic) and gravel overflow parking

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☒ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☐ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☒ Limited off-leash hours: Thorndike off-leash dog park: open daily from 6 AM - 9 PM (no off-leash on fields)

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☒ Located in an EJ area
- ☐ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Thorndike Fields (continued)

SITE INFORMATION

Boundaries, acreage & Parcel ID(s):

- Thorndike Fields are located between the Minuteman Bikeway and Route 2. To the north and west is some undeveloped woodlands and to the east is the Thorndike Off-leash Dog Area (not included in this study) and some wetlands owned by the state's Department of Conservation & recreation.

Protection status:

- The park area is protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).
- The park is zoned as open space.
- Portions of the parcel are included in both the Inland Wetland District and the Floodplain District.
- Funds/grants used to support recent projects include the Community Preservation Act (CPA)

Activities:

- Large fields for soccer and lacrosse
- Adjacent to the Minuteman Bikeway
- Site amenities: benches, signs
- Parking: off-street parking along Bikeway

Natural resources:

- Jurisdictional wetlands:
 - Regulated Wetland Area
 - Floodplain
 - Regulatory Floodway

- Alewife area floodplain
- High water table near wetlands

Cultural resources: n/a

Site history: n/a

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2022-2029 *Open Space and Recreation Plan* (OSRP), Section 5
- The 2015-2022 *Open Space and Recreation Plan* Chapter 5 text, site 14 discussed the Mugar property—the 16.8-acre undeveloped wood area to the west of the Thorndike Fields. Much of the parcel is FEMA-designated floodplain and therefore undevelopable. “Town officials, concerned citizens, and the Arlington Land Trust have explored various ways to acquire the property in order to preserve it as undeveloped open space accessible to all Town residents. Town Meeting has voted to acquire the property as open space, but to date no significant progress has been made to either protect the land as public open space or to develop it. It remains undeveloped wetlands that is becoming even more important for flood control.”
- 2021 *Field & Playground Feasibility Study* (project 13) provides a conditions assessment and conceptual recommendations for the off-leash dog park, including improvements for accessibility, expansion, and general improvements.

Thorndike Fields (continued)

Other notes:

- Invasive plants in bordering woodlands
- Flooding issues
- Town's first porous pavement (gravel with geo-grid); recently renovated after damage from snow plows
- Walkways between parking & field are crushed stone, should be upgraded for accessibility

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- Parks Division of Public Works mows, stripes & maintains the field.

Contracts, current & previous:

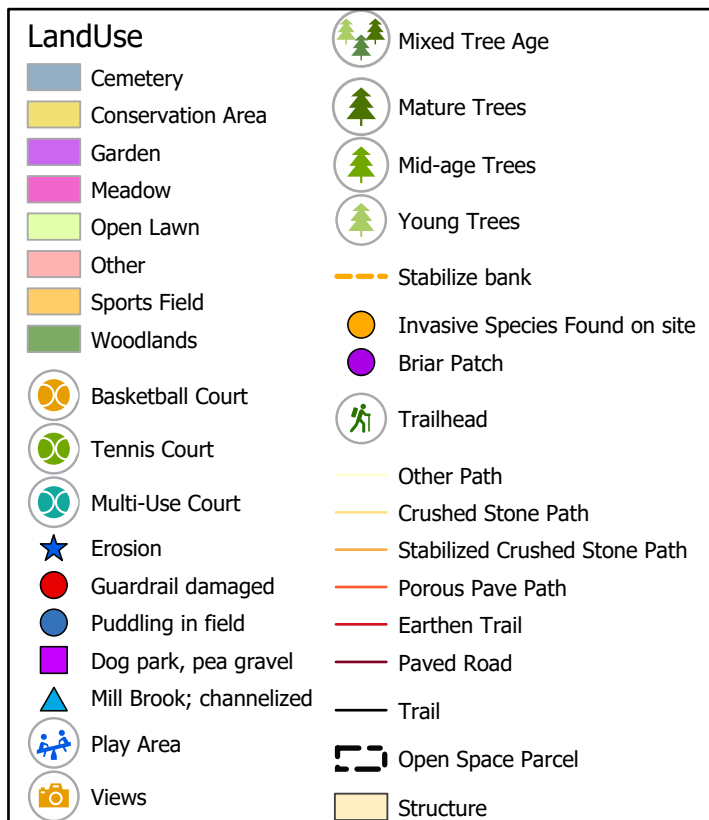
- Included in Turf Treatment for Various Playing Fields & Mount Pleasant Cemetery contract (current bid #20-17)

Volunteer activities:

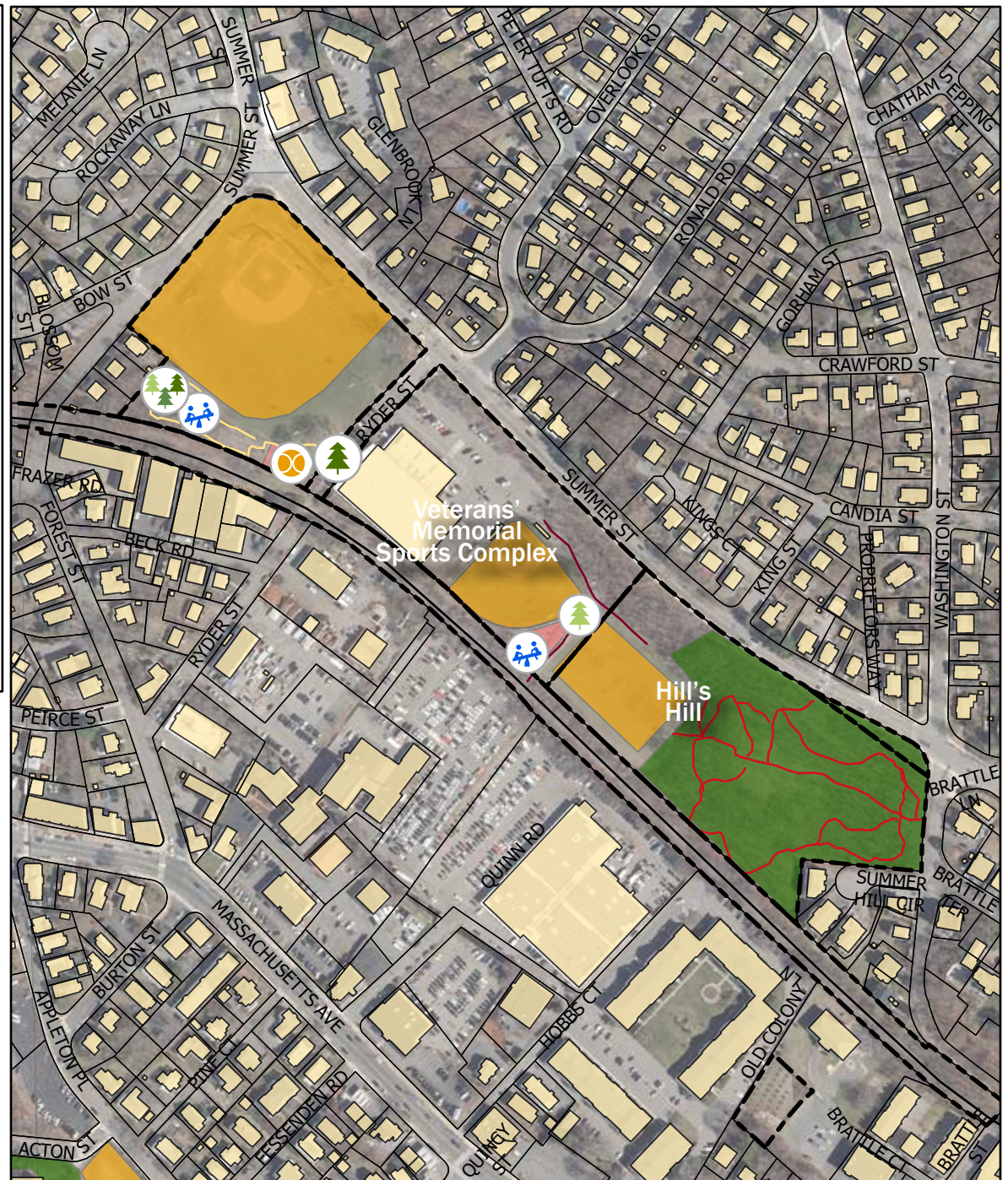
- Friends group: Friends of Thorndike Off-Leash Area
 - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Thorndikedogpark/about/>



(top) Thorndike Fields with woodland buffer at the edge
(bottom) Crushed gravel walkway



0 180 360 720 Feet



VETERANS' MEMORIAL SPORTS COMPLEX **EXISTING CONDITIONS**

Veterans' Memorial Sports Complex

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: 422 Summer Street

PARCEL ID(s): 81-5-1.B & 82-8-3

ACREAGE: 9.0

OWNER: Town of Arlington

MANAGER: Recreation Department

MAINTENANCE: Department of Public Works, Contracted

JURISDICTION: n/a

CURRENT USES

- ☐ Conservation
- ☒ Passive Recreation
- ☒ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☐ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☒ Woodlands
- ☒ Specimen trees
- ☒ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☒ Sports field:
 - ☒ Natural turf
 - ☒ Clay
 - ☒ Irrigation: ☒ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☐ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☒ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☒ Other: bituminous

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

Invasive plant management

- ☐ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☒ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☒ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☐ Limited off-leash hours

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☒ Located in an EJ area
- ☐ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Veterans' Memorial Sports Complex (continued)

General:

- The Veterans' Memorial Sports Complex is located between Summer Street and the Minuteman Bikeway, with Forest Street to the northwest. (Ryder Street is to the east but appears to have been terminated at the Bikeway.)
- Robillard Field is located near the intersection of Summer Street and Forest Street and Buck Field is located to the southeast of the Ed Burns Arena.
- Hill's Hill Conservation Area is discussed in this report separately and includes the wooded area and the rectilinear, soccer field beyond the inclusive play area.
- The Ed Burns Ice Arena (an indoor sports rink) is owned and maintained by the state's Department of Conservation and Recreation.

Protection status:

- The park area is protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).
- The park is zoned as open space.
- Funds/grants used to support recent projects include Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

Activities:

- Buck Field: softball/Little League field lighted for evening use, with bleachers & accessible walkway
 - Used Arlington High School softball
- Inclusive/ADA playground with accessible walkway
- Summer Street Field: baseball field lighted for evening use
 - Used by Arlington High School baseball

- Multi-generational area with benches, tables, and bocce courts
- Basketball court
- Large open field used for field hockey, Frisbee, etc.
- Adjacent to Minuteman Bikeway
- Site amenities: benches, picnic tables, trash, signs, play equipment, fitness equipment, and bocce courts
- Parking: off-street parking

Natural resources:

- Jurisdictional wetlands:
 - Regulated Wetland Area (100 feet)

Cultural resources: n/a

Site history:

- 1971: Seasonal ice arena constructed by the Commonwealth as part of the Metropolitan District Commission

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2022-2029 *Open Space and Recreation Plan* (OSRP), Section 5

Other notes: n/a

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- Parks Division of Public Works mows, stripes, and maintains the field.

Contracts, current & previous:

- Included in Turf Treatment for Various Playing Fields & Mount Pleasant Cemetery contract (current bid #20-17)

Volunteer activities:

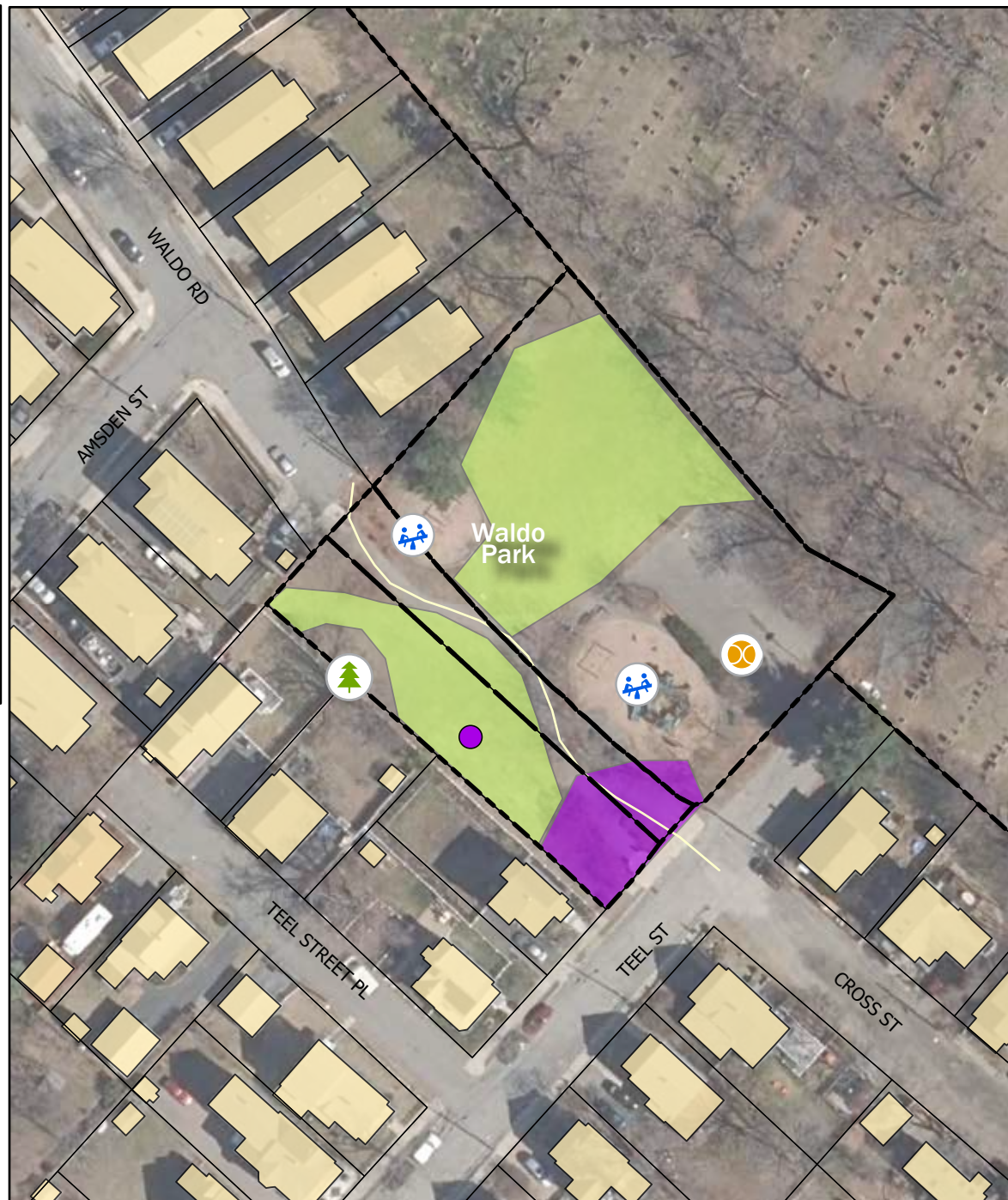
- Friends group: Summer Street Neighborhood Association—unclear if this group is still functioning



(top) Bocce court at multi-generational area at Veterans' Sports Complex; (bottom) New accessible walkway at Buck Field



0 40 80 160 Feet



WALDO PARK & PLAYGROUND EXISTING CONDITIONS

Waldo Park & Playground

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: 65 Waldo Rd
OWNER: Town of Arlington
JURISDICTION: n/a

PARCEL ID(s): 24-2-6, 8.B & -9
MANAGER: Recreation Department

ACREAGE: 0.9
MAINTENANCE: Contracted

CURRENT USES

- ☐ Conservation
- ☒ Passive Recreation
- ☐ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☐ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☐ Woodlands
- ☒ Specimen trees
- ☒ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☒ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☐ Sports field:
 - ☐ Natural turf
 - ☐ Clay
 - ☐ Irrigation: ☐ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☐ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☐ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☒ Other: bituminous

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☐ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☒ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☒ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☐ Limited off-leash hours

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☐ Located in an EJ area
- ☒ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Waldo Park & Playground (continued)

General:

- Bordered to the north by St. Paul's Cemetery, to the west by residences on Amsden Street, Waldo Road, Teel Street Place, and Teel Street.

Protection status:

- The park area is protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).
- The park is zoned as open space.
- Funds/grants used to support recent projects include the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

Activities:

- Playground
- Basketball court
- Open space
- Public art/sculpture
- Site amenities: signs, benches, trash, picnic tables, drinking fountain
- Parking: very limited on-street parking only

Natural resources: n/a

Cultural resources:

- Public art

Site history: n/a

Site-specific planning reports/documentation: n/a

Other notes:

- Pocket park with buffer and ornamental trees
- Lawn in fair condition except where sloped
- Ornamental gardens around Teel Street/Cross Street entrance

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities: n/a

Contracts, current & previous:

- Included in Mowing & Lawn Maintenance of Public Lands contract (current bid #20-16)

Volunteer activities:

- Friends group: Friends of Waldo Park—unclear if this group is still active

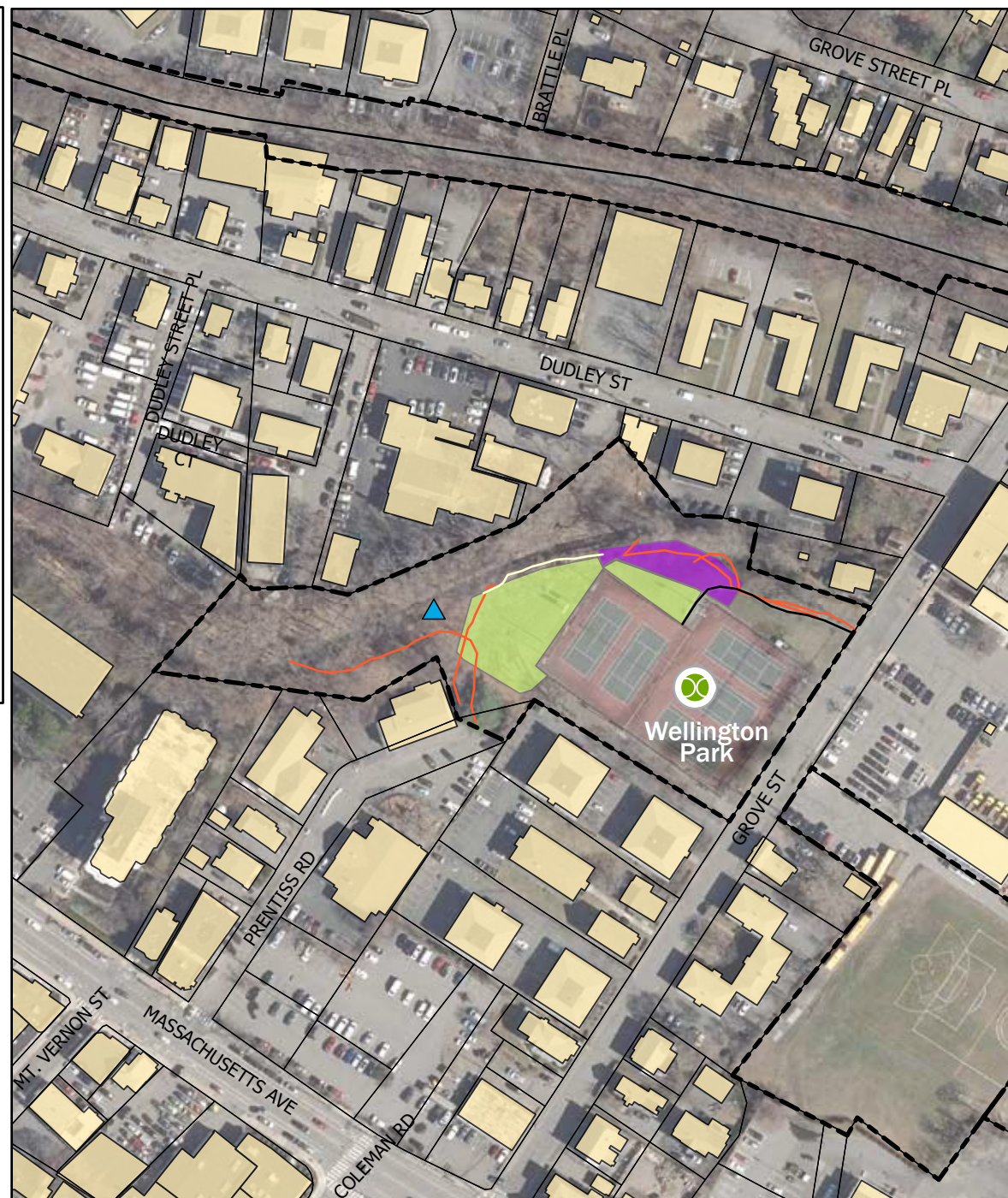


(top) Gateway to Waldo Park from Teel Street

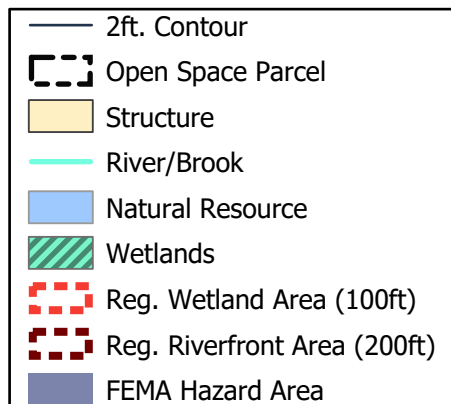
(bottom) Open lawn & play area



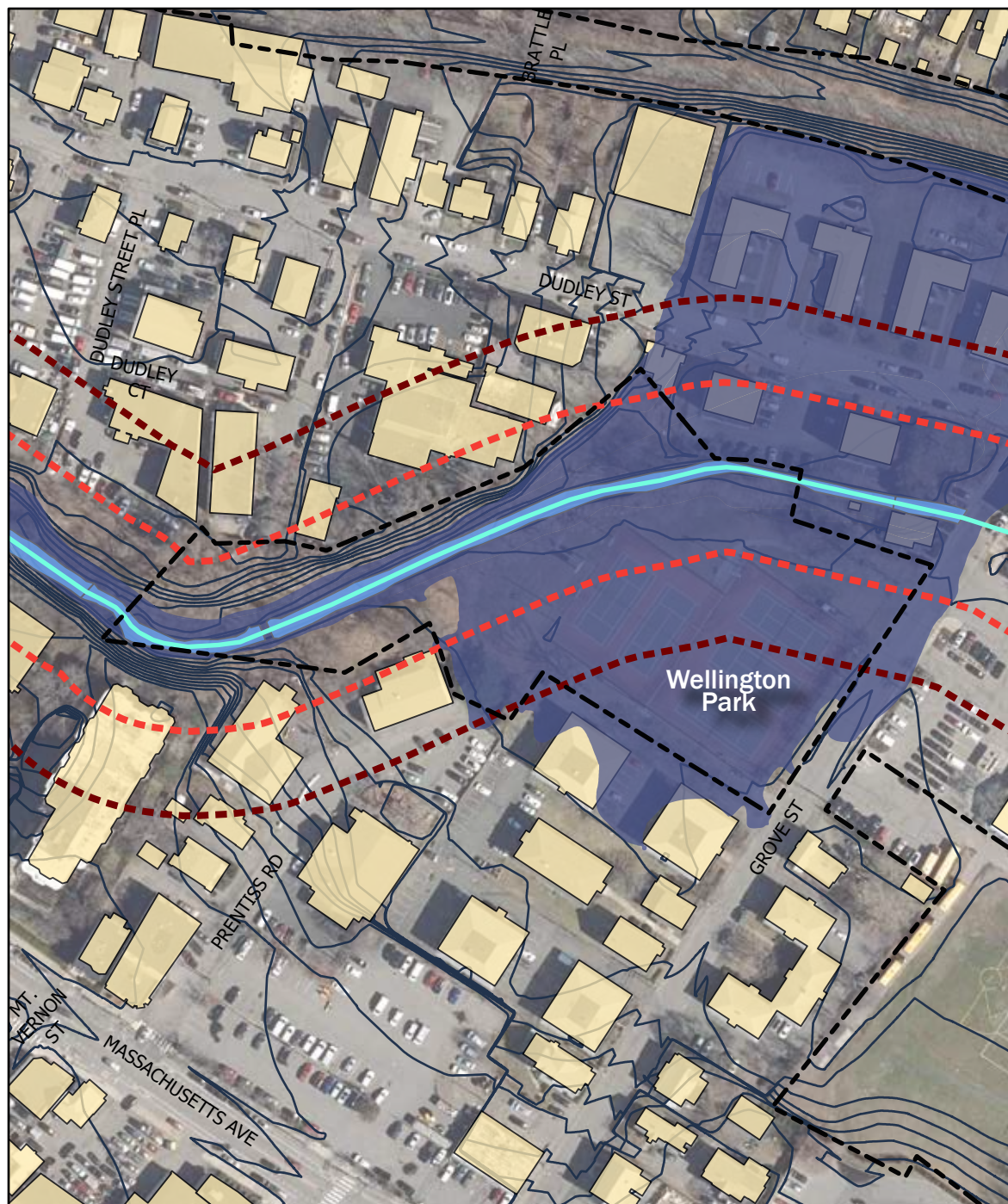
0 90 180 360
Feet



WELLINGTON PARK EXISTING CONDITIONS



0 80 160 320 Feet



Wellington Park

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: Grove Street

PARCEL ID(s): 54-1-1

ACREAGE: 2.96

OWNER: Town of Arlington

MANAGER: Recreation Department

MAINTENANCE: Contracted

JURISDICTION: Arlington Conservation Commission, MassDEP Waterways

CURRENT USES

- ☐ Conservation
- ☒ Passive Recreation
- ☒ Active Recreation
- ☒ Flood Control (very limited volume)
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☐ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☒ Woodlands
- ☒ Specimen trees
- ☒ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Ornamental garden
- ☒ Native/pollinator garden
- ☐ Sports field:
 - ☐ Natural turf
 - ☐ Clay
 - ☐ Irrigation: ☐ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☐ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☐ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☒ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☐ Other

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☒ Porous pavement
- ☒ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☒ Other: constructed wetland/flood control

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☐ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☒ Located in an EJ area
- ☐ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Wellington Park (continued)

General:

- Wellington Park is located off Grove Street and is surrounded by businesses and residences along Grove Street, Dudley Street, and Prentiss Road.
- The Adventure Course is owned by Arlington high School.

Protection status:

- The park area is protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).
- The park is zoned as open space.
- Portions of the parcel are included in both the Inland Wetland District and the Floodplain District.
- Funds/grants used to support recent projects include the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), the Community Preservation Act (CPA), the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Action Grant, the Carol M. White Fund Physical Education Program, and the Mass Audubon Judy Record Conservation Fund

Activities:

- Five lighted tennis courts, 2 courts lined for pickleball
- Open space with benches abutting Mill Brook
- Project Adventure challenge course
- Pathway along the brook
- Site amenities: benches
- Parking: on-street parking only

Natural resources:

- Jurisdictional wetlands:
 - Regulated Wetland Area
 - Riverfront Area
 - Floodplain
 - Regulatory Floodway
- Mill Brook runs through the park parcel

Cultural resources: n/a

Site history:

- 2011: Tennis courts renovated
- Adventure course installed with Carol M. White Fund Physical Education Program federal grant.
- 2020-2021 improvements in 3 phases:
- Funded by Arlington Community Development Block Grant Program. Construction is funded through a \$325,000 Community Preservation Act Fund grant and a \$20,000 Judy Record Fund grant through Mass Audubon. This project is co-managed by the Town and the Mystic River Watershed Association.
- Phase 1: community-driven visioning process for a linear greenway along Mill Brook, specifically between Grove Street and Brattle Street.
- Phase 2: flood storage channel and boardwalk constructed, and native plantings and educational signage were installed.
- Phase 3: expanding the ex. porous asphalt pathway, bio-retention basin for stormwater management, adding an informal exploration play area, installing site amenities like benches and a picnic table, and installing more

Wellington Park (continued)

native plantings

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2022-2029 *Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP)*, Section 5
- 2019 *Mill Brook Corridor Report*

Other notes:

- Invasive plants, especially along bank of brook
- Mill Brook channelized but trees along edge need some management
- Carol White Physical Education Program Grant funded adventure course

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities: n/a

Contracts, current & previous:

- Included in Mowing & Lawn Maintenance of Public Lands contract (current bid #20-16)

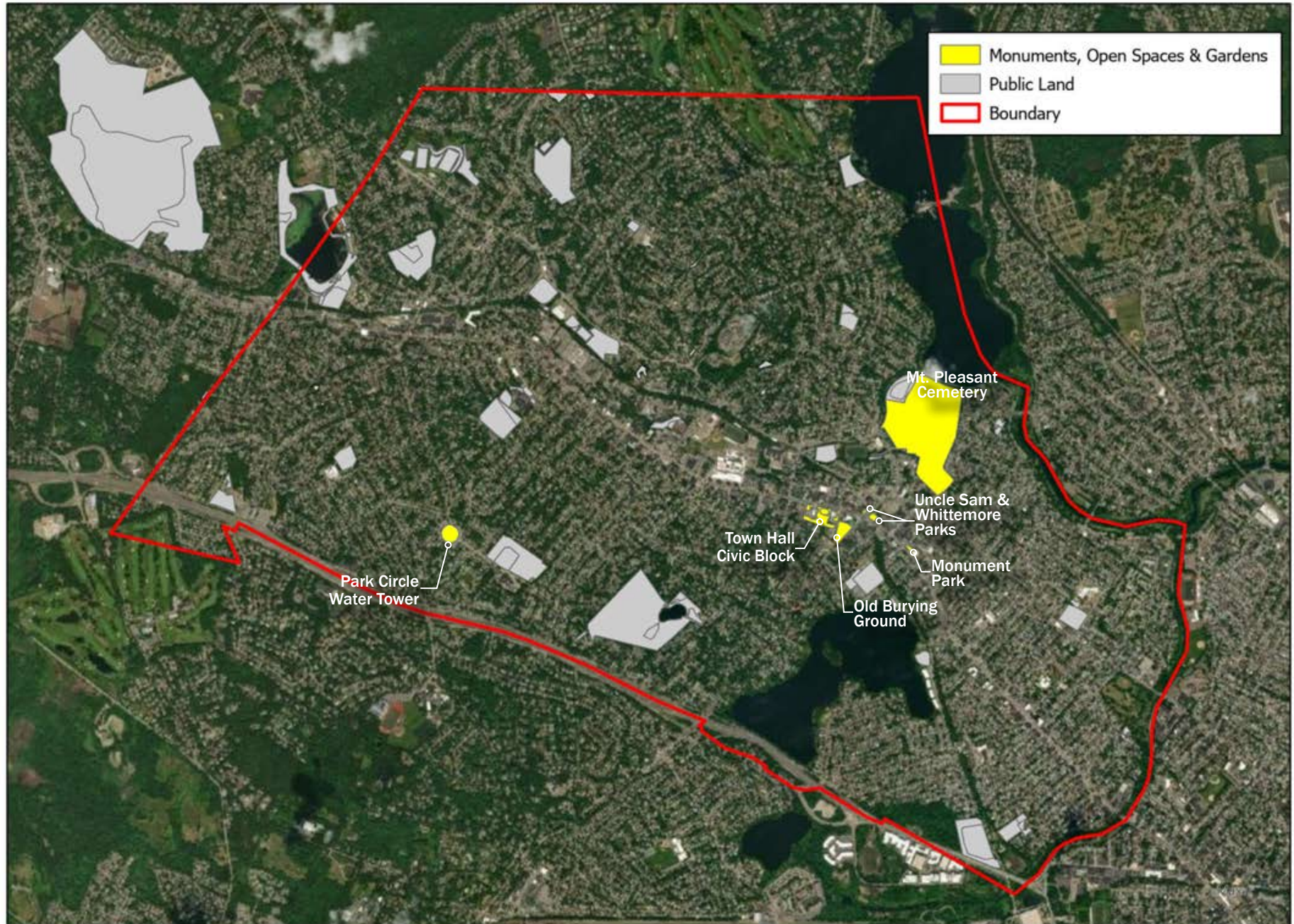
Volunteer activities: n/a



(top) Flood control along Mill Brook at Wellington Park
(bottom) Porous pavement & native plantings

This page left intentionally blank

MONUMENTS, OPEN SPACES & GARDENS



Monuments, open spaces & gardens

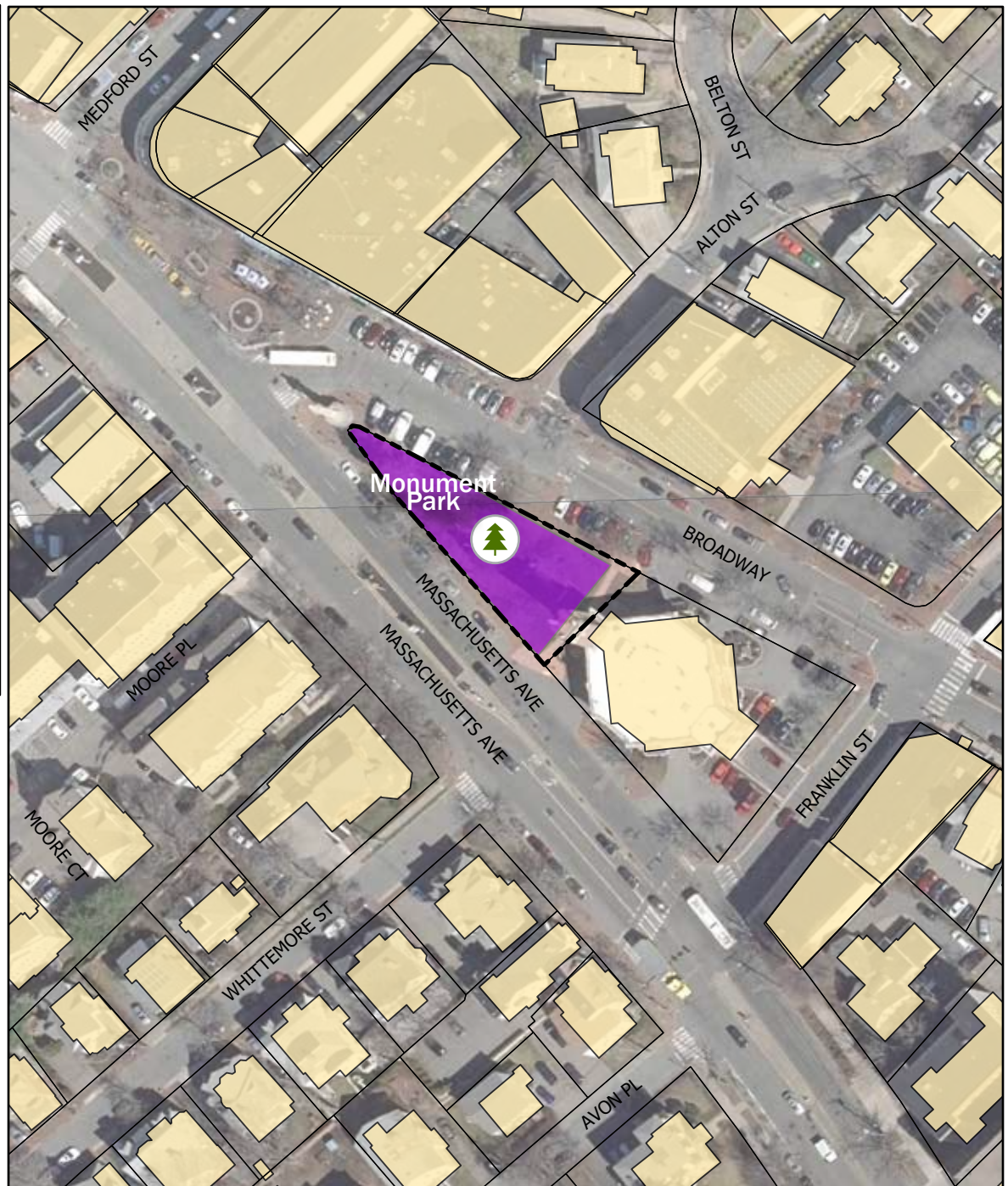
- 47. Monument Park
- 48. Mount Pleasant Cemetery
- 49. Old Burying Ground
- 50. Park Circle Water Tower
- 51. Town Hall Civic Block
- 52. Uncle Sam Park & Monument
- 53. Whittemore Park Jefferson Cutter House

General notes

This final section of public land includes a unique selection of properties: the Town's operating cemetery, the Old Burying Ground, three pocket parks which are as much hardscape as they are green, and a donut shape green space around the historic water tower. It also includes the Town Hall Civic Block which encompasses a series of ornamental gardens, and hardscape spaces.



0 55 110 220 Feet



MONUMENT PARK **EXISTING CONDITIONS**

Monument Park

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: Massachusetts Avenue at Broadway

PARCEL ID(s): 32-1-2

ACREAGE: 0.45 acres

OWNER: Town of Arlington

MANAGER: Recreation Department

MAINTENANCE: n/a

JURISDICTION: Arlington Historical Commission

CURRENT USES

- ☐ Conservation
- ☐ Passive Recreation
- ☐ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☒ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☐ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☐ Woodlands
- ☒ Specimen trees
- ☒ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☒ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☐ Sports field:
 - ☐ Natural turf
 - ☐ Clay
 - ☐ Irrigation: ☐ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☐ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☐ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☒ Other: brick

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☐ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☐ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☒ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☐ Limited off-leash hours

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☒ Located in an EJ area
- ☐ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Monument Park (continued)

General:

- Monument Park is a triangular parcel within the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Broadway.

Protection status:

- The 2015-2022 *Open Space and Recreation Plan* noted that the parcel has limited protection status.
- The monument is protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).
- The parcel is zoned R-1 (single family residential).

Activities:

- Historic Civil War memorial with plantings and lawn
- Annual Veterans' Day Parade ends at this site for placing of wreathes and a ceremony
- Site amenities: bench, sign, site lighting
- Parking: on-street parking only, nearby municipal lots (with fare)

Natural resources: n/a

Cultural resources:

- Civil War Monument
- Arlington Veterans' Roll Call

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2022-2029 *Open Space and Recreation Plan* (OSRP), Section 5 - Small Neighborhood Parks and Open Spaces

Site history:

- Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument was dedicated in June 1887 to those who served in the Civil War. The 42-foot high monument was designed by architects Van Brunt and Howe and was constructed by the Mitchell Granite Company of Quincy. It is comprised of granite from Quincy, Massachusetts; Westerly, Rhode Island; and Barre, Vermont.

Other notes:

- Trees are in fairly good condition
- Species seem peculiar for location/context
- Planting beds have only the most tenacious species (*Euonymus fortunei*) and need refreshing
- Irrigation may not be working based on remaining plant material

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities: n/a

Contracts, current & previous: n/a

Volunteer activities: n/a

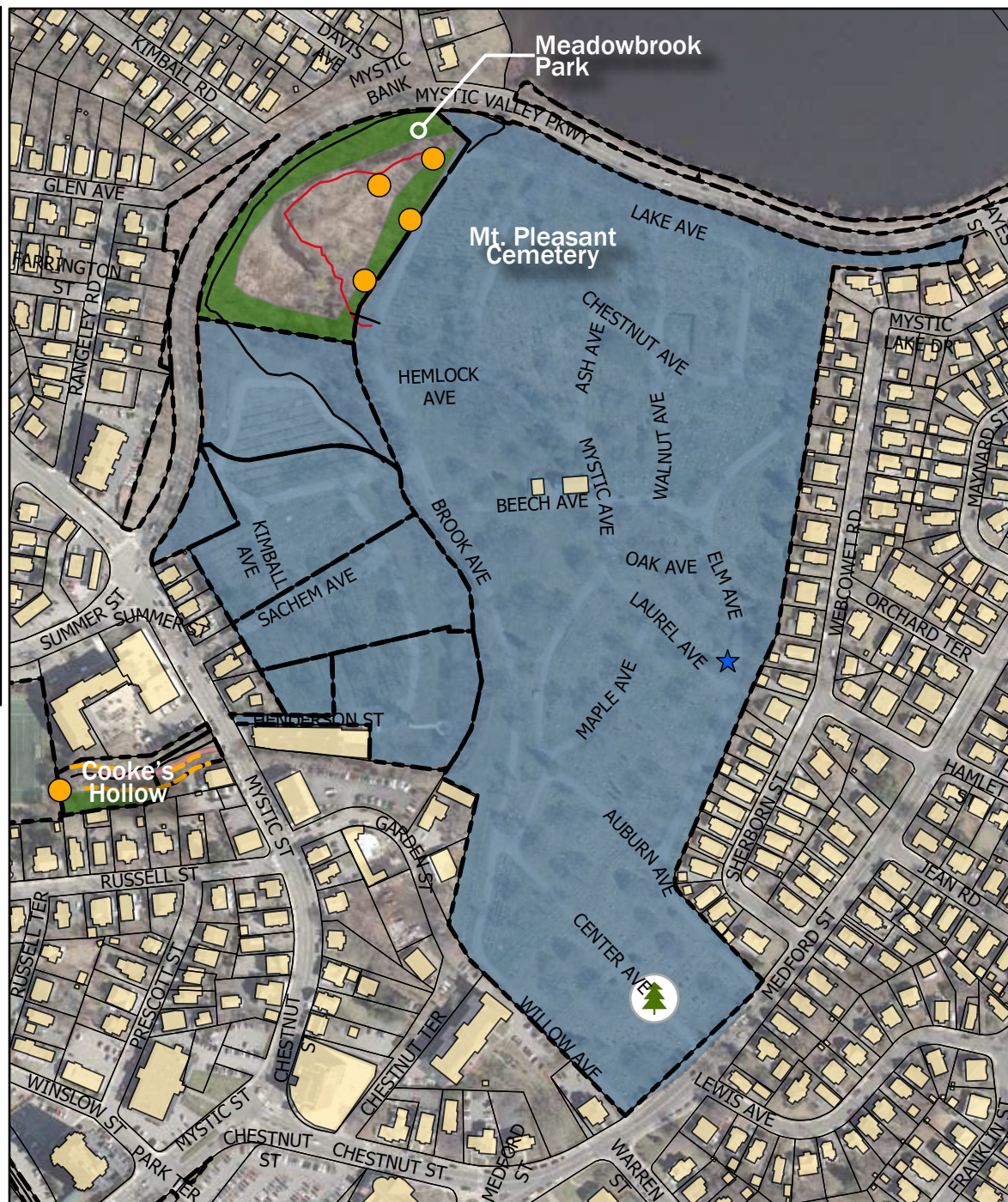


(top) Lawn & groundcover plantings at Monument Park

(bottom) Mature trees in the park

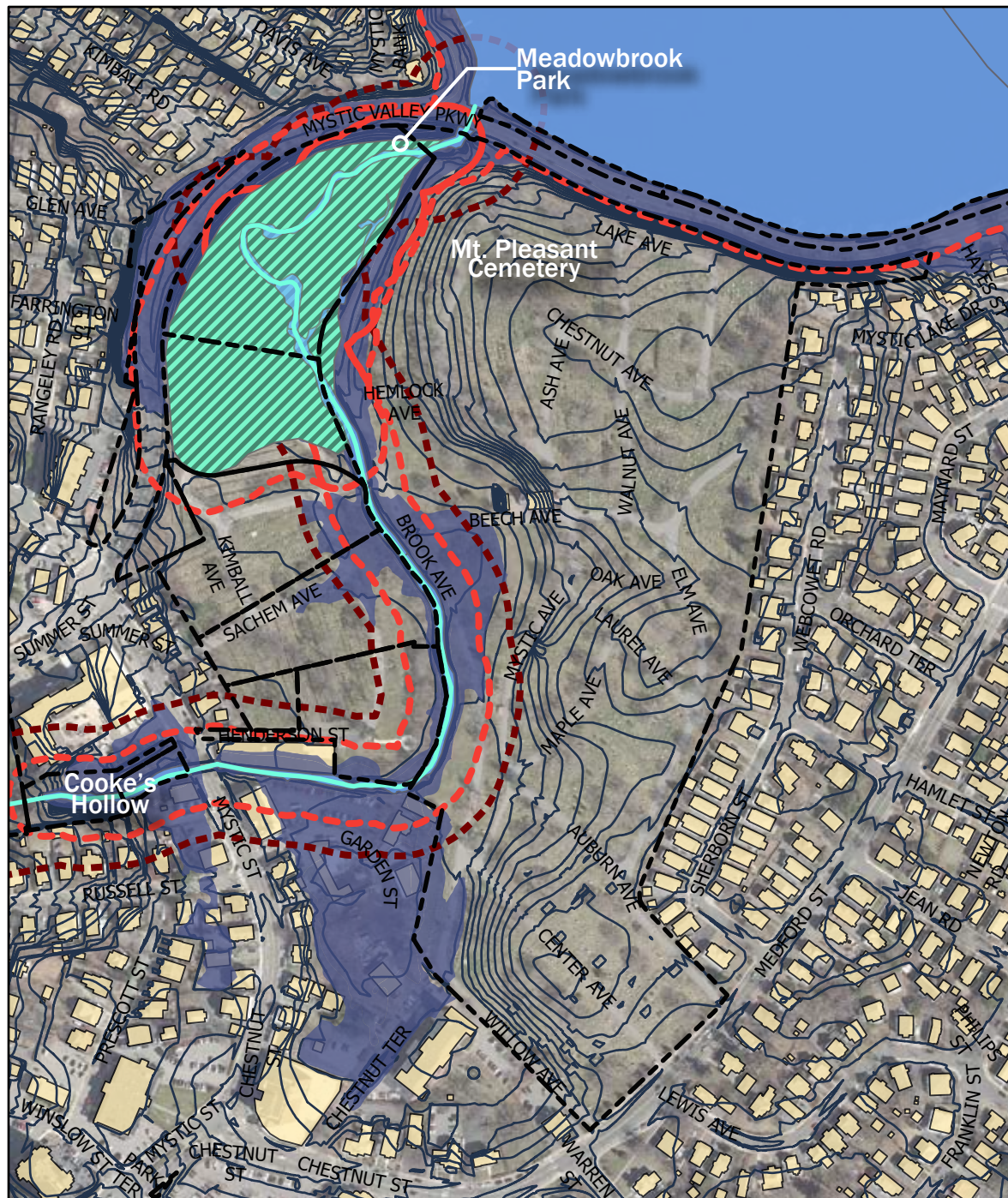
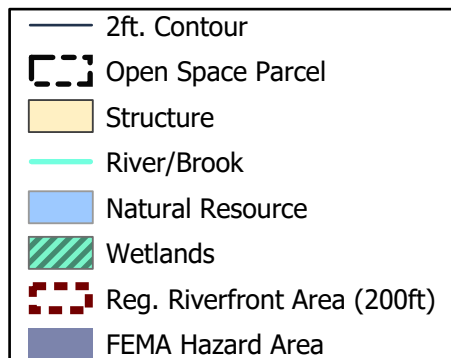


0 195 390 780 Feet



MOUNT PLEASANT CEMETERY

EXISTING CONDITIONS



MOUNT PLEASANT CEMETERY JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS

Mount Pleasant Cemetery

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: Massachusetts Avenue at Broadway PARCEL ID(s): 46-1-12, 49-1-17.A, -19.B & -21, 64-3-5.A, -6, & -7 ACREAGE: 58.9
 OWNER: Town of Arlington MANAGER: Cemetery Commission MAINTENANCE: Contracted
 JURISDICTION: Arlington Conservation Commission, MassDEP Waterways

CURRENT USES

- ☐ Conservation
- ☒ Passive Recreation
- ☐ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☒ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☐ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☐ Woodlands
- ☒ Specimen trees
- ☒ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☐ Sports field:
 - ☐ Natural turf
 - ☐ Clay
 - ☐ Irrigation: ☐ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☐ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☐ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☒ Other: No distinguished trails other than paved drives

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☒ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☒ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☐ Limited off-leash hours

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☒ Located in an EJ area
- ☐ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Mount Pleasant Cemetery (continued)

General:

- The main entrance is located on Medford Street (southeast edge of the property). It is bordered to the northeast by Mystic Valley Parkway and Meadowbrook Park, to the east by residences along Webcowet Road and Sherborn Street, and to the southwest by residences along Mystic and Garden Streets. Mill Brook runs through the cemetery.

Protection status:

- The 2015-2022 OSRP noted that the parcel has limited protection status.
- The parcel is zoned R-1 (single family residential).
- Portions of the parcel are included in both the Inland Wetland District and the Floodplain District.

Activities:

- Historic cemetery in a landscaped, park-like setting
- Structures include maintenance buildings, chapel & bridge over Mill Brook
- Walking
- Walkways: turf
- Site amenities: signs
- Parking: allowed in cemetery on drive lanes

Natural resources:

- Jurisdictional wetlands:
 - Wetland
 - Regulated Wetland Area (100 feet)
 - Regulated Riverfront Area (200 feet)
 - FEMA Hazard Zone with 1% Annual Chance of Flood

- FEMA Regulatory Floodway
- Mill Brook runs through the cemetery

Cultural resources:

- Mount Pleasant Cemetery is included on the Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information Service (MACRIS) with inventory #ARL.801 (c. 1843), and the chapel is separately listed as inventory #ARL.711 (1930). The cemetery is listed with categories of significance of community planning, landscape Architecture, and religion. The chapel is listed for architecture and religion.

Site history:

- Mount Pleasant Cemetery was established in 1843 after the Old Burying Ground ran out of space.
- 2016: Due to limited space remaining, columbaria areas added to the site

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2022-2029 *Open Space and Recreation Plan* (OSRP), Section 5
- *Arlington Open Space Management Plan*, July 2009
- 2019 *ADA Self-Evaluation* recommends providing an accessible parking space on the drive by the main entrance.

Mount Pleasant Cemetery (continued)

Site rules:

- Rules & Regulations were adopted by the Board of Cemetery Commissioners of Mount Pleasant Cemetery in May 2005:
 - No bushes or shrubs are to be planted in select (AA-HH) sections or in flat marker sections. Any plants that were previously planted and require replacement will not be allowed to be replaced. All tree planting requests for the cemetery must be approved by the Cemetery Commission.
 - Flower beds, in appropriate areas, are required to conform to size and will be placed not more than 8 inches from the face of the monument. Flower beds are not allowed in the select or flat marker sections. Artificial flowers are not permitted to be placed on or in the ground anywhere throughout the cemetery.
 - No enclosures of any kind/material are allowed, including fences, ditches, curbs, stones, boxes, urns or granite enclosures.
 - No lights are allowed whatsoever, including candles, vigil lights, solar lights, strings of lights, any type of light that is operated with a battery or battery pack. These items are also not allowed to be in effect while a visitor may be at a grave site.
 - No shepherd hooks or other items are allowed that would compromise the safety of the ground crew as maintenance routines are carried out. When in doubt about an item, please ask the Supervisor.
 - Potted plants, flowers, baskets and cemetery logs are allowed on any given holiday or on a day that signifies a special occasion, i.e. an anniversary or birthday.

Wreaths or sprays of evergreens will be allowed during the Christmas season

- All flowers and decorations will be removed starting 10 days after a holiday or special occasion and may be subject to removal if it becomes unsightly before 10 days are up.
- The cemetery will not be responsible for, or damage to, any flowers, decorations, holders, statues, receptacles or any type of memorializing item that is left at a grave. The cemetery suggests not placing items of any actual or personal worth at the graves. Any items will be replaced or fixed by the family and not the cemetery.
- The cemetery must take into account the wellbeing of the cemetery grounds as well as the conservation land that sits within the confines of the cemetery. Therefore no decorations are allowed on conservation property.
- All visitors to the cemetery who wish to keep a memorializing item are encouraged to return to the grave site within the appropriate amount of time and remove it themselves for safekeeping.
- The cemetery asks that for any specific requests or questions regarding this policy please see the Supervisor or address your concerns to the Cemetery Commissioners.

Other notes:

- Limited burial space remaining
- Mix of vegetation: mature trees and plantings around burials
- Trees in fair condition generally, but may need pruning
- Access is clearly a challenge

Mount Pleasant Cemetery (continued)

- All the driveways (asphalt) have rutting and mud on the shoulders, suggesting people are pulling off or drives are too narrow; results in mud and siltation which is collecting a multiple drain locations.

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- Trash pick-up
- Tree pruning, removals, and replacements conducted as needed through coordination the DPW (including the Tree Warden) and the Cemetery Commission.
- Cemetery Division conducts burials

Contracts, current & previous:

- Included in separate contract for mowing, spring and fall clean-ups, and shrub pruning (current bid #20-15)
- Included in Turf Treatment for Various Playing Fields & Mount Pleasant Cemetery contract (current bid #20-17)

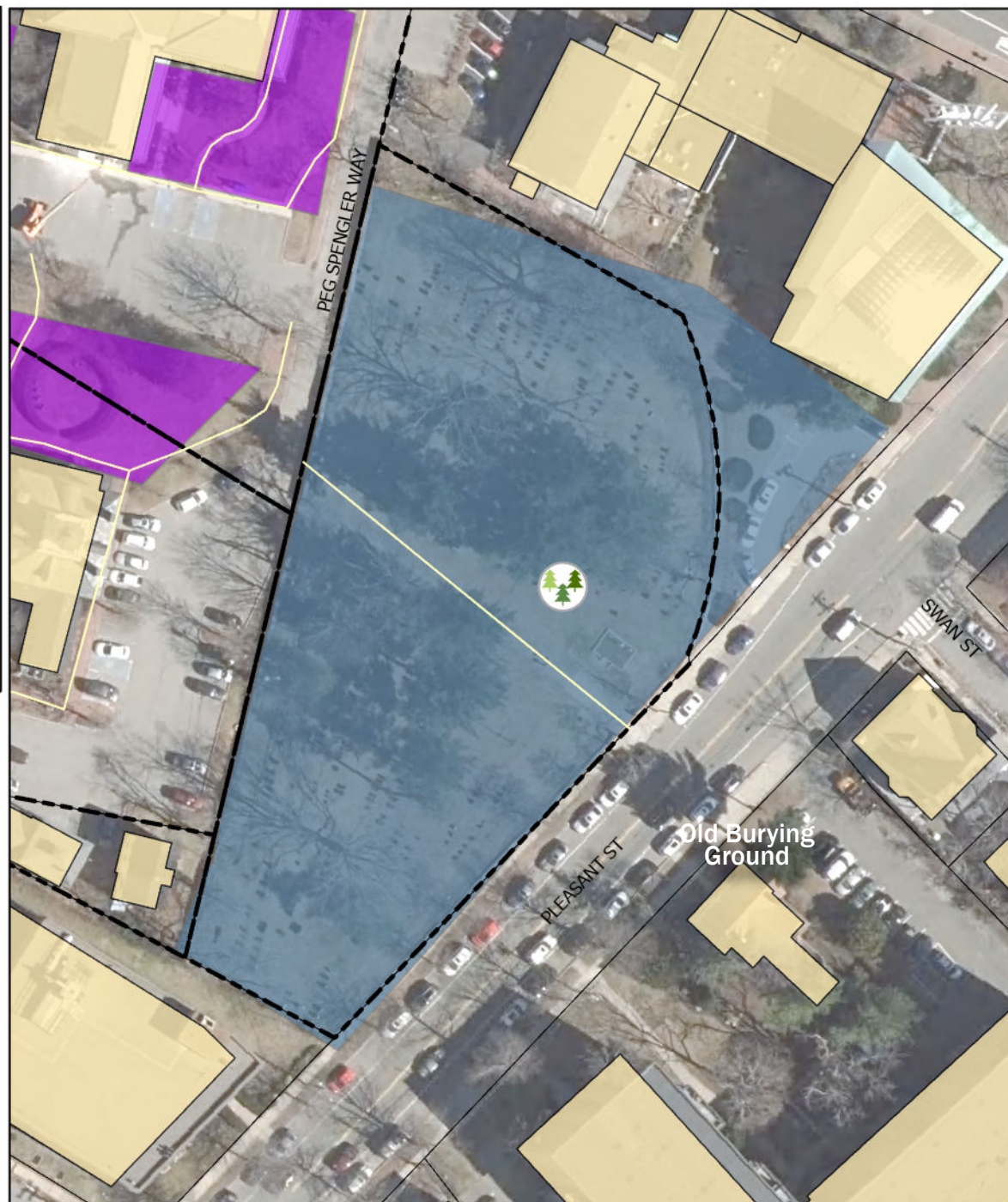
Volunteer activities: n/a



(top) General conditions at Mount Pleasant Cemetery
(bottom) Rutting along side cemetery drives



0 40 80 160 Feet



OLD BURYING GROUND EXISTING CONDITIONS

Old Burying Ground

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: Pleasant Street

PARCEL ID(s): 11-1-3

ACREAGE: 1.5

OWNER: Town of Arlington

MANAGER: Cemetery Commission

MAINTENANCE: Contracted

JURISDICTION: Arlington Historical Commission

CURRENT USES

- ☐ Conservation
- ☐ Passive Recreation
- ☐ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☒ Historic/Cultural
- ☒ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☐ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☐ Woodlands
- ☒ Specimen trees
- ☒ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☐ Sports field:
 - ☐ Natural turf
 - ☐ Clay
 - ☐ Irrigation: ☐ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☐ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☒ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☒ Other: bituminous

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☐ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☒ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☐ Limited off-leash hours

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☐ Located in an EJ area
- ☒ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

General:

- Located on Pleasant Street to the east of Robbins Memorial Library.
- The Town Manager (the Manager) has ultimate responsibility for the Old Burying Ground.
- The Arlington Historical Commission has jurisdiction and overall responsibility for the preservation and protection of both the Civic Block properties, including the Old Burying Ground.
- The Department of Public Works Cemetery Superintendent and staff provide maintenance care for the Old Burying Ground.

Protection status:

- The parcel is zoned R-1 (single family residential).
- A Preservation Restriction (established in 2000) held in perpetuity by the Massachusetts Historical Commission. This Preservation Restriction includes the Town Hall, the Town Hall Gardens, and the Old Burying Ground.

Activities:

- Historic cemetery in a landscaped, park-like setting
- Site amenities: n/a
- Parking: on-street only (with fare)

Natural resources: n/a

Cultural resources:

- The Old Burying Ground is part of the civic block which is listed on the Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information

Service (MACRIS) under several listings. Those that include the Old Burying Ground include:

- ARL.A—Arlington Center Historic District (NRDIS est. 1974, updated 1985; NRMRA est. 1985)
- ARL.F—Arlington Center Historic District (NRDIS est. 1985; NRMRA est. 1985)
- ARL.AJ—Arlington Center Commercial District
- ARL.800—Arlington Old Cemetery (c. 1732)

NRDIS = National Register District

NRMRA = National Register Multiple Resource Area

Site history:

- The Old Burying Ground was established in 1724.
- The Town purchased the land for the new Town Hall and its associated gardens in 1910.

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- *Arlington Civic Block Master Plan*, 1998
- *Arlington Open Space Management Plan*, April 2010 provided for Old Burying Ground & Town Hall Gardens

Other notes:

- Trees need severe pruning, access will be challenge and historic monuments & memorials at risk
- Burying ground needs planting succession plan

Old Burying Ground (continued)

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- Trash pick-up
- Tree pruning, removals, and replacements conducted as needed through coordination the DPW (including the Tree Warden) and the Cemetery Commission.

Contracts, current & previous:

- Included in separate contract for turf maintenance (mowing and seasonal clean-ups) Town Hall, Library, Whittemore-Robins House and Old Burying Ground.

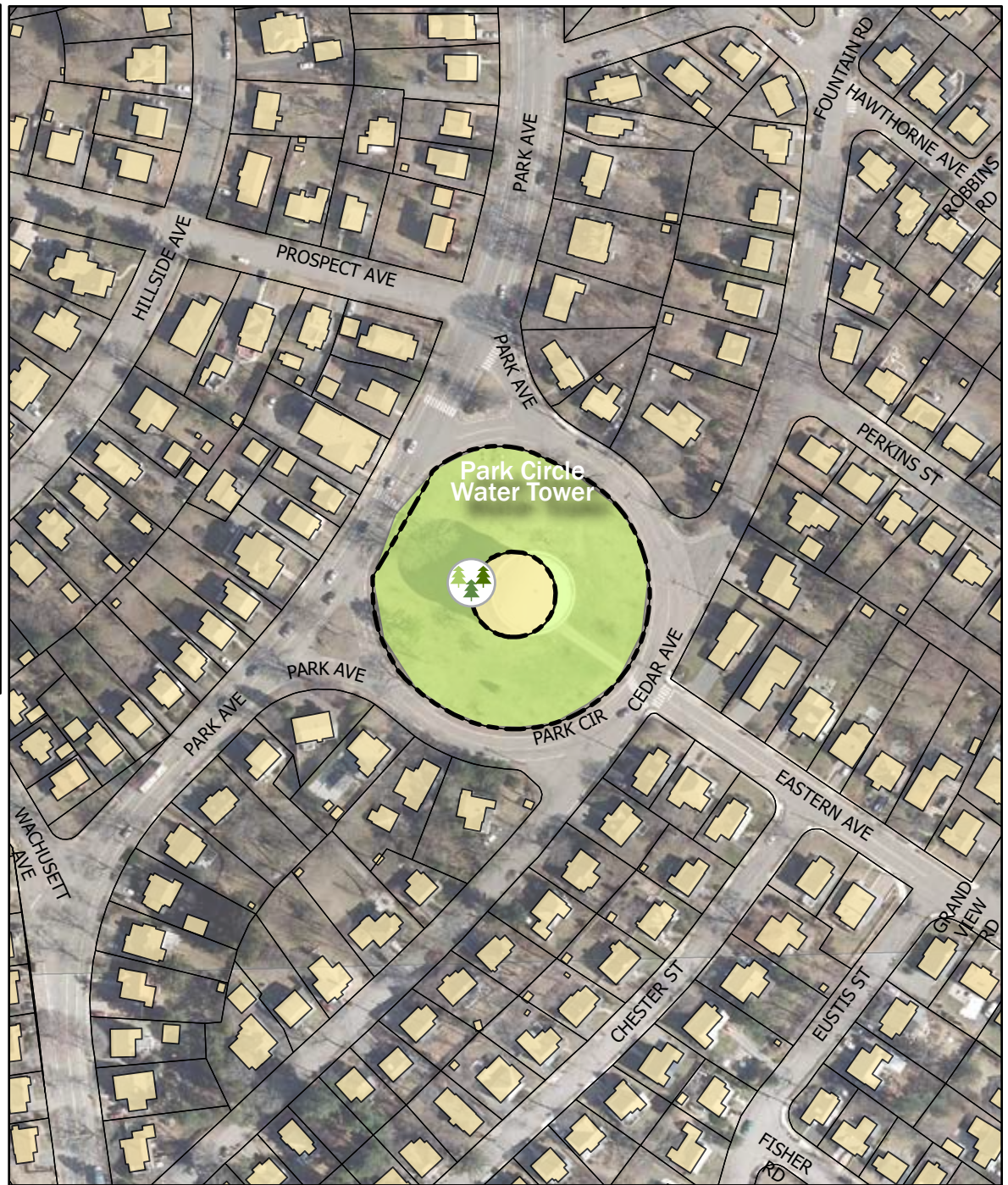
Volunteer activities: n/a



(top) Mature tree in need of pruning
(bottom) Sedimentation of area drains



0 100 200 400 Feet



PARK CIRCLE WATER TOWER **EXISTING CONDITIONS**

Park Circle Water Tower

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: Park Circle

PARCEL ID(s): 152-10-2

ACREAGE: 1.5

OWNER: Town of Arlington

MANAGER: Recreation Department

MAINTENANCE: Contracted

JURISDICTION: n/a

CURRENT USES

- ☐ Conservation
- ☒ Passive Recreation
- ☐ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☐ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☐ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☐ Woodlands
- ☒ Specimen trees
- ☒ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☐ Sports field:
 - ☐ Natural turf
 - ☐ Clay
 - ☐ Irrigation: ☐ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☐ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☐ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☒ Other: bituminous

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☐ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☐ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☒ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☐ Limited off-leash hours

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☐ Located in an EJ area
- ☐ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

General:

- The donut-shaped landscape is surrounded by Park Avenue and Park Circles with the MWRA water tank at the center.
- The water tank at the center (parcel ID: Map 152 Block 10 Parcel 1) is owned by state's Department of Conservation & Recreation and managed by the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority.

Protection status:

- The 2015-2022 *Open Space and Recreation Plan* noted that the parcel has limited protection status.
- The parcel is zoned R-1 (single family residential).

Activities:

- Grassy area surrounding water tower with ornamental plantings
- MWRA water tower
- Walkways: Bituminous walkways connect to the water tower from crosswalks extending across Park Avenue and Park Circle from Eastern Avenue.

Natural resources: n/a

Cultural resources: n/a

Site history:

- 1921: Metal water tank built by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
- 1924: Metal tank was enclosed by a 80-foot tall ornamental "Greek temple" donated by the Robbins sisters and designed by Frederic F. Low,

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2022-2029 *Open Space and Recreation Plan* (OSRP), Section 5 - Small Neighborhood Parks and Open Spaces

Other notes:

- Open lawn and older ornamental trees
- Trees in need of pruning and succession plan

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities: n/a

Contracts, current & previous:

- Included in Mowing & Lawn Maintenance of Public Lands contract (current bid #20-16)

Volunteer activities: n/a



*(top) Ornamental trees at Park Circle Water Tower
(bottom) Dead tree among the ornamentals*



Town Hall Civic Block

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: 700-730 Massachusetts Avenue

PARCEL ID(s): 11-1-3 & -8, 124-3-2, -3, -4, & -5

ACREAGE: 2.7

OWNER: Town of Arlington

MANAGER: Office of the Town Manager

MAINTENANCE: Contracted

JURISDICTION: Arlington Historical Commission

CURRENT USES

- ☐ Conservation
- ☒ Passive Recreation
- ☐ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☒ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☒ Civic
- ☐ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☒ Woodlands
- ☒ Specimen trees
- ☒ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☒ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☐ Sports field:
 - ☐ Natural turf
 - ☐ Clay
 - ☒ Irrigation: ☐ Broadcast ☒ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☐ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☐ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☒ Other: brick

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☒ Bio-swale/rain garden (at community center)
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☒ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☒ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☐ Limited off-leash hours

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☐ Located in an EJ area
- ☒ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Town Hall Civic Block (continued)

General:

- The Civic Block includes multiple civic buildings, including Town Hall, Central School (Community Center, previously known as the Senior Center), Whittemore-Robbins House, Winfield Robbins Memorial Gardens, and the Robbins Memorial Library. The block faces Massachusetts Avenue to the north, Mystic Street to the east, Academy Street to the west and Maple Street to the southwest.
- The Arlington Historical Commission has jurisdiction and overall responsibility for the preservation and protection of both the Civic Block properties (including the Old Burying Ground), all historic structures, and the gardens.

Protection status:

- A Preservation Restriction (established in 2000) held in perpetuity by the Massachusetts Historical Commission. This Preservation Restriction includes the Town Hall, the Town Hall Gardens, and the Old Burying Ground.
- The civic block is zoned as R-1 (single-family residential).
- The Community Center is zoned as R-7 (apartment district/high density).
- Funds/grants used to support recent projects include the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund and the Community Preservation Act (CPA)

Activities:

- Multiple historic and civic buildings
- Formal landscaped gardens with water fountain, pool, benches
- Gardens used for weddings and other events

- Playground
- Site amenities: signage, benches, sculpture
- Parking: on-street only (with fare); staff parking available

Natural resources: n/a

Cultural resources:

- Olmsted Brothers designed landscape from Library to town hall (Peg Spangler Way to Academy Street.)
- The civic block is listed on the Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information Service (MACRIS) under several listings; these include:
 - ARL.A—Arlington Center Historic District (NRDIS est. 1974, updated 1985; NRMRA est. 1985)
 - ARL.F—Arlington Center Historic District (NRDIS est. 1985; NRMRA est. 1985)
 - ARL.AJ—Arlington Center Commercial District
 - ARL.601—Whittemore-Robbins House (c. 1795)
 - ARL.603—Robbins Library (1892)
 - ARL.604—Robbins Memorial Town Hall (1912)
 - ARL.914—Winfred Robbins Memorial Garden
 - ARL.920—Robbins Memorial Flagstaff (sculpture; 1913)
 - ARL.922—Menotomy Indian Hunter (sculpture; 1911)
 - ARL.923—Uncle Sam Memorial Sculpture (1976)
 - ARL.933—Arlington Town Hall Gardens

NRDIS = National Register District

NRMRA = National Register Multiple Resource Area

Town Hall Civic Block (continued)

Site history:

- From the Public Library's website: *In 1892 a gift from Maria C. Robbins, in memory of her husband Eli, gave the library a permanent home and a new name. The building, which cost \$150,000 to construct and could hold 60,000 volumes, was considered one of the more noteworthy pieces of architecture of the time.*
- The former Central School, now Community Center, was given to Recreation Department circa 1981 and restricted to senior/community/non-profit uses.

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2022-2029 Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP), Section 5
- Arlington Civic Block Master Plan, 1998
- Arlington Open Space Management Plan, April 2010 provided for Old Burying Ground & Town Hall Gardens
- Town Hall Garden Water Features, Pre-Design Report: Garden History & Rehabilitation Recommendations, February 2018
- Town Hall Garden Water Features Project Completion Report, December 2018

Other notes:

- The site is accessible to mobility-challenged people with the caveat that some of the historic brick and cobble walkways are uneven and bumpy. The entrance off Library Way is more uneven and bumpy. There is no curb cut at the entrance to the Gardens from the Whittemore-Robbins House side coming from the Library parking lot.

- Bricks paths need improvements for accessibility (those at fountain have been recently restored)
- Hedge at Robbins House
- The irrigation system for the gardens is beyond its useful life.

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- No maintenance undertaken by Arlington DPW, except for trash pickup

Contracts, current & previous:

- Included in separate contract for turf maintenance (mowing and seasonal clean-ups) Town Hall, Library, Whittemore-Robbins House and Old Burying Ground.
- Integrated Pest Management contract used for gardens
- Memorandum of understanding for maintenance in the Winfield Robbins Memorial Gardens

Volunteer activities:

- Friends group: Friends of Robbins Town Garden: www.friendsoftherobbinstowngardens.org
- Town Hall Gardens Stewards Group
- Arlington Garden Club maintains 2 area: the Reflecting Pool area and the gardens surrounding the Whittemore-Robbins House
- Major CPA funding has brought the Reflecting Pool area back to life and the Club maintains the plantings around it. The Club rescued the overgrown garden at the house a few years ago and refurbished it with native plants and

Town Hall Civic Block (continued)

others in keeping with the 19th Century period when the house was built. Appearances are important, given the frequent use of both the pool area and house for special functions. Spring planting of annuals, pruning, and periodic weeding keep everything in peak condition.



(top) Winifield Robbins Memorial Garden near Town Hall
(bottom) Hedge planting at the Robbins House

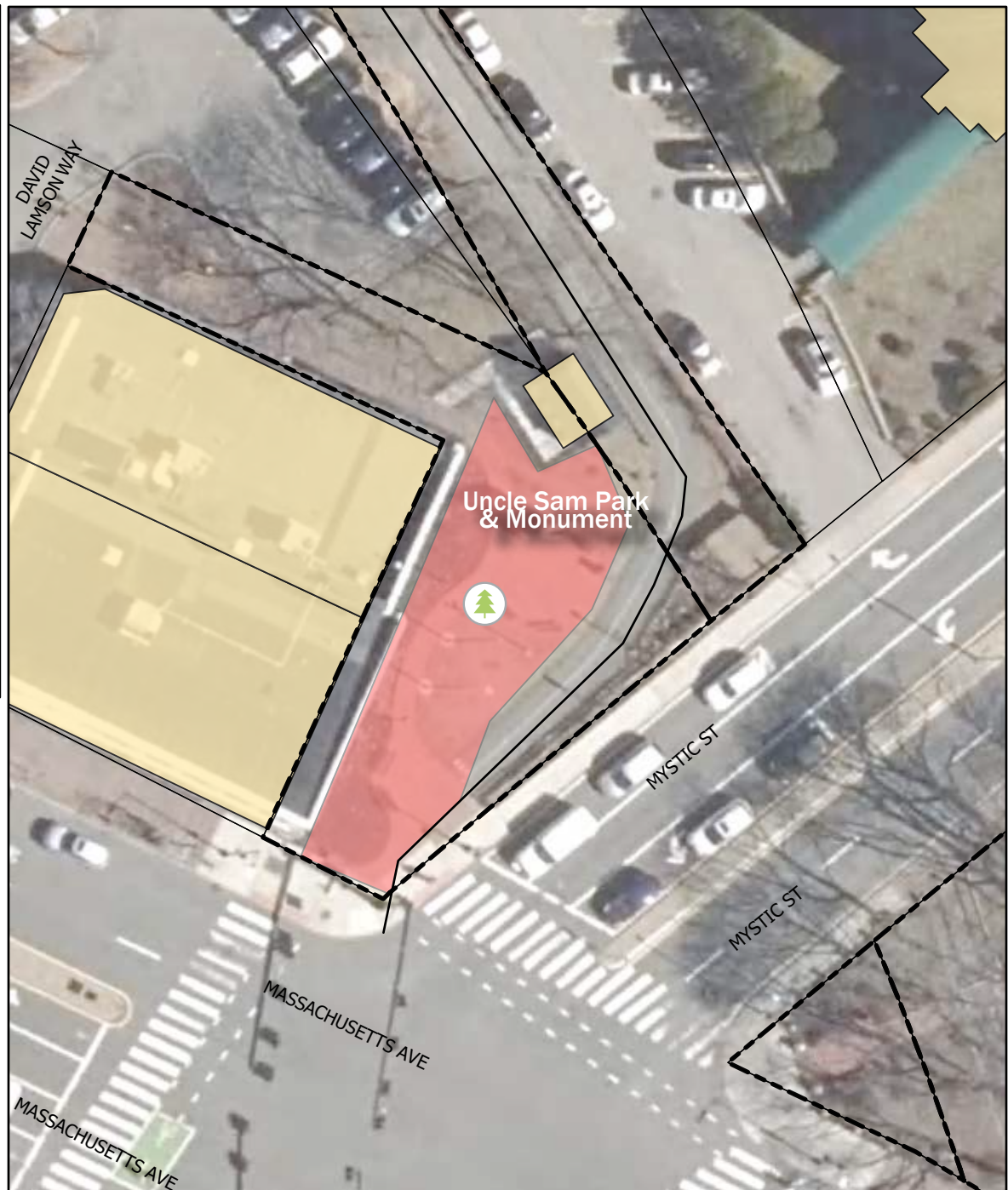


(top) Mature trees at the Old Burying Ground

(bottom) Edges of the civic block have more vegetation



0 20 40 80 Feet



UNCLE SAM PARK & MONUMENT EXISTING CONDITIONS

Uncle Sam Park & Monument

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: 4 Mystic Street

OWNER: Town of Arlington

JURISDICTION: n/a

PARCEL ID(s): 50-7-1 (same as Whittemore Park) ACREAGE: 0.25 (includes Whittemore Park)

MANAGER: Select Board

MAINTENANCE: Department of Public Works

CURRENT USES

- ☐ Conservation
- ☐ Passive Recreation
- ☐ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☒ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☒ Civic
- ☐ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☐ Woodlands
- ☒ Specimen trees
- ☒ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☒ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☐ Sports field:
 - ☐ Natural turf
 - ☐ Clay
 - ☐ Irrigation: ☐ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☐ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☐ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☒ Other: brick

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☐ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☒ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☒ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☐ Limited off-leash hours

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☒ Located in an EJ area
- ☐ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Uncle Sam Park & Monument (continued)

General:

- Located to the northwest quadrant of the intersection of Mystic Street/Massachusetts Avenue.

Protection status:

- The 2015-2022 *Open Space and Recreation Plan* noted that the parcel has limited protection status.
- The parcel is zoned R-1 (single family residential).

Activities:

- Pocket park near Town center
- Adjacent to Minuteman Bikeway
- Structures include Uncle Sam Monument (sculpture) and Visitor Center
- Site amenities: benches, signage
- Parking: on-street parking only, nearby municipal lots (with fare)

Natural resources: n/a

Cultural resources:

- Memorial sculpture to “Uncle Sam”
- The Uncle Same Memorial Sculpture is included in the Massachusetts Cultural Resources Inventory System (MACRIS) as inventory #ARL.923. (1976) The sculpture is included in a National Register Multiple Resource Area, inventory #ARL.AF—Mystic Street Area.

Site history:

- The park was reconstructed as part of the Arlington Center Safe Travel project. It commemorates Samuel Wilson, who was born in Arlington in 1766.

Site-specific planning reports/documentation: n/a

Other notes:

- Specimen tree (young)
- Irrigated planting bed (deadheading ornamental grasses)

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- Parks Division of Public Works mows the lawn.
- Public Works trims of ornamental grasses in fall.

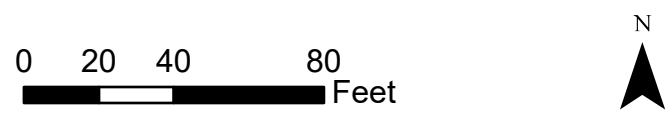
Contracts, current & previous: n/a

Volunteer activities: n/a



(top) Ornamental planting beds at Uncle Sam Park

(bottom) Social trail has destroyed turf area



WHITEMORE PARK

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Whittemore Park at the Jefferson Cutter House

SITE INFORMATION

ADDRESS: 4 Mystic Street PARCEL ID(s): 50-7-1 (same as Uncle Sam Park) ACREAGE: 0.25 (includes Uncle Sam Park)
 OWNER: Town of Arlington MANAGER: Select Board MAINTENANCE: n/a
 JURISDICTION: Arlington Historical Commission

CURRENT USES

- ☐ Conservation
- ☒ Passive Recreation
- ☐ Active Recreation
- ☐ Flood Control
- ☒ Historic/Cultural
- ☐ Cemetery
- ☐ Civic
- ☐ Education

LANDSCAPE TYPES

- ☐ Woodlands
- ☒ Specimen trees
- ☒ Open lawn
- ☐ Meadow/grassland
- ☐ Community garden
- ☒ Ornamental garden
- ☐ Native/pollinator garden
- ☐ Sports field:
 - ☐ Natural turf
 - ☐ Clay
 - ☐ Irrigation: ☐ Broadcast ☐ Drip

WALKWAYS/TRAILS

- ☐ Earthen trail/social trail
- ☐ Crushed granite/stonedust
- ☐ Stabilized crushed granite
- ☐ Porous pave (mix of rubber & aggregate)
- ☒ Other: exposed aggregate concrete & brick

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☐ Porous pavement
- ☐ Bio-swale/rain garden
- ☐ Retention/detention basin
- ☐ Other

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- ☒ Upland
- ☐ Aquatic

WASTE REMOVAL

- ☒ Trash
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Other

DOG RULES

- ☒ No off-leash dogs allowed
- ☐ Limited off-leash hours

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- ☒ Located in an EJ area
- ☐ Located within 0.25 miles of an EJ area

Whittemore Park (continued)

General:

- Located to the northeast quadrant of the intersection of Mystic Street/Massachusetts Avenue.

Protection status:

- The park area is protected in perpetuity by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Law (Article 97).
- The parcel is zoned R-1 (single family residential).
- The house is protected with a Preservation Restriction (est. 1990).
- Funds/grants used to support recent projects include the Community Preservation Act (CPA)

Activities:

- Shaded park with benches
- Site of art exhibits and festivals
- Adjacent to Minuteman Bikeway
- Chamber of Commerce office
- Seasonal farmers' market
- Site amenities: benches
- Parking: on-street, nearby municipal lots (with fare)

Natural resources: n/a

Cultural resources:

- Within Wittemore Park is the Jefferson Cutter House, which is listed on the Massachusetts Cultural Resources Inventory System (MACRIS) as inventory #ARL.4. (c. 1830)

The individual property listing was established in 1992, and it is also included in a National Register Multiple Resource Area, inventory #ARL.P, established in 1985.

- Jefferson Cutter House (historic protection) houses the Cyrus Dallin Art Museum with meeting and gallery space
- Chamber of Commerce office
- Remnant train tracks from line built in 1846

Site history:

- 1988: Jefferson Cuter House (built circa 1830) was moved to the site (previously the location of the John Adams House, circa 1650)
- 2021: Phase 1 renovations included walkways and a lawn area
- 2022: Phase 2 renovations to include accessible walkways for access into the Jefferson Cutter House and stairs to connect to adjacent parcels, as well as additional planting improvements

Site-specific planning reports/documentation:

- 2019 ADA Self-Evaluation recommends renovating exterior routes and provide a van-accessible parking space.

Other notes:

- Recently renovated, phase 2 improvements scheduled for summer/fall 2022
- Specimen trees (mature) need care and succession plan
- Invasive vegetation management (Tree of Heaven, Norway maple)
- Irrigated planting bed (drip irrigation)

EXISTING MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Town activities:

- No maintenance undertaken by Arlington DPW

Contracts, current & previous: n/a

Volunteer activities: n/a



(top) Gateway to Whittemore Park from Massachusetts Avenue
(bottom) Empty planting beds & exposed drip irrigation

Part 2. Legal & regulatory environment

FEDERAL POLICIES

- Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)
- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS POLICIES

- Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA) Article 97 Land Disposition Policy, 1998

TOWN OF ARLINGTON POLICIES

- Zoning By-laws
- Title V, Article 8 – Wetlands Protection
- Title V, Article 15 – Stormwater management
- Title V, Article 16 – Tree Protection & Preservation
- Regulations for Wetlands Protection, 2018
- Conservation Commission Conservation Land Regulations, 2002
- Tree Management Plan
- Tree Construction Guidelines
- General Cemetery Policy
- Field Permit Policy
- Recreation Equipment Storage Facility Policy
- Off-leash Dogs in Arlington
- Design Standards for the Town of Arlington, 2015

TOWN OF ARLINGTON GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS

- Policy on Volunteer Projects on Conservation Lands
- Invasive Plants in Arlington
- Tree Maintenance Information

Federal policies

Many of these landscapes have been acquired, supported, and/or improved using federal grants funds, especially the Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

LAND & WATER CONSERVATION FUND (LWCF)

The LWCF reallocates federal revenue from offshore oil and gas leasing and can be used by the states to:

- Acquire parkland or conservation land
- Create new parks
- Renovate existing parks
- Develop trails

LWCF grants require that the subject site must be kept reasonably open, accessible, and safe for public use in perpetuity.

Property acquired or developed with LWCF assistance shall be retained and used for public outdoor recreation. Any property so acquired and/or developed shall not be wholly or partly converted to other than public outdoor recreation uses without the approval of NPS pursuant to the LWCF Act (54 U.S.C. § 200305(f)(3)) and conversion requirements outlined in regulations (36 C.F.R. § 59.3). The conversion provisions of the LWCF Act, regulations, and these guidelines apply to each area or facility for which LWCF assistance is obtained, regardless of the extent of participation of the program in the assisted area or facility and consistent with the contractual agreement between NPS and the State.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program provides annual grants on a formula basis to states, cities, and counties to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons. The program is authorized under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, Public Law 93-383, as amended 42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq. The program was designed to reinforce several important values and principles of community development:

- CDBG's flexibility empowers people and communities to design and implement strategies tailored to their own needs and priorities.
- CDBG's emphasis on consolidated planning expands and strengthens partnerships among all levels of government and the private sector in enhancing community development.
- CDBG's technical assistance activities and set-aside for grantees builds the capacity of these partners.
- CDBG grants are provided by the federal government through the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to support communities in the development of public facilities/ infrastructure.

A number of other grants have been used over the years for improvements; those are noted in the site discussion.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts policies

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS (EOEA) ARTICLE 97 LAND DISPOSITION POLICY (1998)

Parcels included in this report that are protected in perpetuity by the state's Land Disposition Policy are noted in each site description.

It is the policy of EOEA and its agencies to protect, preserve and enhance all open space areas covered by Article 97 of the Article of Amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Accordingly, as a general rule, EOEA and its agencies shall not sell, transfer, lease, relinquish, release, alienate, or change the control or use of any right or interest of the Commonwealth in and to Article 97 land. The goal of this policy is to ensure no net loss of Article 97 lands under the ownership and control of the Commonwealth and its political subdivisions.

Exceptions are possible, but rare, and typically require an act of legislature.

Town of Arlington policies

ZONING BY-LAWS

*As Amended by Annual Town Meeting in April 2021

The Town's Zoning By-laws, as applicable to this report and the projects included herein, are highlighted here:

- 3.4.4. Environmental Design Review Standards:
 - A. *Preservation of Landscape. The landscape shall be preserved in its natural state, insofar as practicable, by minimizing tree and soil removal, and any grade changes shall be in keeping with the general appearance of neighboring developed areas.*
 - B. *Open Space. All open space (landscaped and usable) shall be so designed as to add to the visual amenities of the vicinity by maximizing its visibility for persons passing the site or overlooking it from nearby properties. The location and configuration of usable open space shall be so designed as to encourage social interaction, maximize its utility, and facilitate maintenance.*
 - C. *Circulation. With respect to vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle circulation, including entrances, ramps, walkways, drives, and parking, special attention shall be given to location and number of access points to the public streets (especially in relation to existing traffic controls and mass transit facilities), width of interior drives and access points, general interior circulation, separation of pedestrian and vehicular traffic, access to community facilities, and arrangement of vehicle parking and bicycle parking areas, including bicycle parking spaces required by Section 6.1.12 that are safe and convenient and, insofar as practicable, do not detract from the use and enjoyment of proposed buildings and structures and the neighboring properties.*
 - D. *Surface Water Drainage. Special attention shall be given to proper site surface drainage so that removal of surface waters will not adversely affect neighboring properties or the public storm drainage system. Available Best Management Practices for the site should be employed, and include site planning to minimize impervious surface and reduce clearing and re-grading. Best Management Practices may include erosion control and stormwater treatment by means of swales, filters, plantings, roof gardens, native vegetation, and leaching catch basins. Stormwater should be treated at least minimally on the development site; that which cannot be handled on site shall be removed from all roofs, canopies, paved and pooling areas and carried away in an underground drainage system. Surface water in all paved areas shall be collected at intervals so that it will not obstruct the flow of vehicular or pedestrian traffic, and will not create puddles in the paved areas.*
 - J. *Heritage. With respect to Arlington's heritage, removal or disruption of historic, traditional or significant uses, structures, or architectural elements shall be minimized insofar as practicable, whether these exist on the site or on adjacent properties.*
 - K. *Microclimate. With respect to the localized climatic characteristics of a given area, any development which proposes new structures, new hard-surface ground coverage, or the installation of machinery which emits heat, vapor, or fumes, shall endeavor to minimize, insofar as practicable, any adverse impact on light,*

Town of Arlington Policies (continued)

air, and water resources, or on noise and temperature levels of the immediate environment.

- L. *Sustainable Building and Site Design. Projects are encouraged to incorporate best practices related to sustainable sites, water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, materials and resources, and indoor environmental quality. Applicants must submit a current Green Building Council Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design.*
- 5.6.1. *Districts and Purposes*
 - *The majority of parcels included in this report are zoned open space, with the exceptions of those parcels associated with school facilities—typically zoned R1: single-family residential districts—and the Town Hall Civic Block which is zoned B5 for the Central Business District.*
 - *OS: Open Space District. The Open Space District includes parcels under the jurisdiction of the Park and Recreation Commission, Conservation Commission, Arlington Redevelopment Board, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), or Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA). Structures, where present, are clearly accessory to the principal open space and recreation functions of the property.*
- 5.7 *Floodplain District*
 - *Several of these parcels included in this study are included with in the Town's Floodplain District. Based on the most recent Wetland & Floodplain Overlay Map, dated October 2017. Those that are included have been notes in their individual site narrative.*
- *Purpose*
 - A. *Protect the health and safety of the occupants of lands subject to seasonal or periodic flooding in the Mill Brook, Alewife Brook, Mystic River, and Mystic Lakes floodplain, as shown on the zoning overlay map of the Town of Arlington.*
 - B. *Prevent the reduction of the water-carrying capacity of streams, brooks, rivers, and drainage courses by prohibiting the destruction or alteration of their natural character, and by preventing encroachment by future development, both public and private, in the floodway. A floodway includes the normal channel of a river or stream and those portions of the floodplains adjoining the normal channel which are reasonably required to carry off the flood flow.*
 - C. *Preserve the natural flood control characteristics and the water storage capacity of the floodplain.*
 - D. *Protect the public from hazard and loss through the regulation of future development of lands adjoining such watercourses.*
 - E. *Protect the safety and purity of water; control and containment of sewage; safety of gas, electric, fuel, telecommunications, and other utilities from breaking, leaking, short-circuiting, grounding, igniting, electrocuting or any other dangers due to flooding.*

Town of Arlington Policies (continued)

- 5.8 Inland Wetland District
 - *Several of these parcels included in this study are included with in the Town's Inland Wetland District. Based on the most recent Wetland & Floodplain Overlay Map, dated October 2017. Those that are included have been notes in their individual site narrative.*
 - *The Inland Wetland District is superimposed over any other district established by this Bylaw and includes the following areas:*
 - A. *All lands within the elevations shown on the Wetland and Floodplain Overlay Map of the Zoning Map and designated as wetlands as defined by the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, G.L. c.131 §40, and the implementing regulations, 310 CMR 10.00, as well as the Town of Arlington Bylaw for Wetlands Protection (Title V, Article 8), and the Wetland Protection Regulations promulgated thereunder. These include lakes, ponds and swamps.*
 - B. *All land area along all perennial rivers, brooks, and streams as defined by the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, G.L. c.131 §40, and the implementing regulations, 310 CMR 10.00, as well as the Town of Arlington Bylaw for Wetlands Protection (Title V, Article 8), and the Wetland Protection Regulations promulgated thereunder for a horizontal distance of 200 feet from the center line thereof are included in the Inland Wetland District.*

The complete and most up-to-date by-laws can be found here:

- <https://www.arlingtonma.gov/town-governance/laws-and-regulations/zoning-bylaws>

Town of Arlington Policies (continued)

TITLE V - REGULATIONS UPON THE USE OF PRIVATE PROPERTY

The Town of Arlington has the *Title V - Regulations Upon the Use of Private Property*. Those topics that are relevant to the management of public lands have been summarized here.

The complete and most up-to-date regulations can be found here:

- <https://www.arlingtonma.gov/town-governance/laws-and-regulations/town-bylaws/title-v-regulations-upon-the-use-of-private-property>

• ARTICLE 8 – WETLANDS PROTECTION

The purpose of this Wetlands Protection Bylaw is to protect the wetlands, water resources, and adjoining land areas in Arlington by controlling activities deemed by the Conservation Commission likely to have a significant or cumulative effect upon resource area values, including but not limited to, the following: public or private water supply, ground water supply, flood control, erosion control and sedimentation control, storm damage prevention, other water damage prevention, prevention of pollution, protection of surrounding land and other homes or buildings, wildlife protection, plant or wildlife habitat, aquatic species and their habitats, and the natural character or recreational values of the wetland resource.

The Bylaw protects additional resource areas, for additional values, with additional standards and procedures stricter than those of the Wetlands Protection Act.

Except as permitted by the Conservation Commission or as provided in this Bylaw, no person shall remove, fill, dredge, discharge into, build upon, degrade or otherwise alter any

marsh, freshwater wetland, vernal pool, wet meadow, bog, swamp, river, stream, creek, pond, reservoir, or lake, or any bank to said waters, or any land under said waters, or any land bordering thereon or riverfront area as hereinafter defined, or any land subject to flooding or inundation.

• ARTICLE 15 – STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

The purpose of this bylaw is to protect, maintain, and enhance the public health, safety, environment, and general welfare by establishing minimum requirements and procedures to control the adverse effects of soil erosion and sedimentation, construction and post-development stormwater runoff, decreased groundwater recharge, climate change impacts, and non-point source pollution associated with new development, redevelopment, and other land alterations.

The objectives of this bylaw are to:

1. *Protect wetland and water resources;*
2. *Mitigate climate change impacts;*
3. *Comply with state and federal statutes and regulations relating to stormwater discharges including total maximum daily load requirements;*
4. *Prevent and reduce pollutants from entering Arlington's municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4);*
5. *Prohibit illicit connections and unauthorized discharges to the MS4 and require their removal;*
6. *Establish minimum construction and post construction stormwater management standards and design criteria for the regulation and control of stormwater runoff quantity and quality and the control of sedimentation and erosion on disturbed sites;*

Town of Arlington Policies (continued)

7. *Establish provisions for the long-term responsibility for, and maintenance of, structural stormwater control facilities and nonstructural stormwater best management practices to ensure that they continue to function as designed, and pose no threat to public safety; and*
8. *Establish Arlington's legal authority to ensure compliance with the provisions of this bylaw through inspection, monitoring, and enforcement.*

• ARTICLE 16 - TREE PROTECTION & PRESERVATION

The Town of Arlington finds that preservation of the tree canopy and planting of replacement trees is essential to preserving the character and aesthetic appearance of the Town and maintaining quality of life and the environment in the Town. Trees improve air quality, protect from heat and glare, reduce noise pollution, limit topsoil erosion and storm water runoff, provide natural flood control, enhance property values, contribute to the distinct character of neighborhoods, and offer natural privacy to neighbors.

A. *Applicability:*

2. *Proposed demolition of an existing residential or non-residential structure;*
3. *Proposed construction on a developed lot which would result in an increase of 50 percent or more of the total building footprint of the new structure(s) when compared to the total footprint of preexisting structures; or*
4. *Proposed construction of any scope on a lot with no residential or non-residential structure on it.*

- B. *Sites under the jurisdiction of the Arlington Redevelopment Board ("ARB") or the ARB as the Planning Board, the Zoning Board of Appeals, or the Conservation Commission pursuant to Arlington's Wetlands Protection By-law (Title V, Article 8) may waive the requirements of this By-law in full or in part where such waiver serves the interest of the community and the reasons therefore are memorialized by such bodies.*
- C. *The requirements of this By-law shall not apply to trees defined as Public Shade Trees under G.L. c.87 § 1.*

Procedures and Requirements for the Preservation of Trees:

- A. *Removal of Protected Trees on applicable sites shall be prohibited unless such removal is authorized by a written approval of the Tree Plan and commencement of work, in accordance with this by-law.*
- B. *In all instances of construction or demolition as defined and applicable herein, the owner of the property shall submit a Tree Plan accompanied by a fee of \$50, to the Tree Warden prior to or concurrent with an application for a building or demolition permit. Additionally, if any Protected Trees were removed during the 12 months preceding the application for a building or demolition permit, such trees shall be accounted for on the Tree Plan to the best of the owner's ability, and shall be mitigated pursuant to paragraph 4.C*
- C. *For each Protected Tree removed, there shall be payment made to the Tree Fund, prior to the commencement of work on the property, in the amount set by a mitigation schedule approved by the Select Board assigning a value per inch of DBH of Protected Tree(s) to reflect the cost of planting and caring for new public trees, which the Town shall use to*

Town of Arlington Policies (continued)

plant replacement trees in the vicinity of the tree removal or in other locations in the discretion of the Tree Warden.

- D. *If the Tree Plan is consistent with the requirements of this Bylaw, the Tree Warden shall so certify in writing approving the Tree Plan and commencement of work. Said certification shall occur within 10 business days. If the Tree Plan as submitted does not satisfy the requirements of this By-law and associated rules and regulations, the Tree Warden shall so notify the applicant with recommendations to achieve compliance. The Tree Warden shall be permitted access to the site during normal business hours to verify and ensure compliance with the approved Tree Plan.*
- E. *An Owner aggrieved of the Tree Warden's determination on a Tree Plan, or with respect to the need for such a plan, may appeal such determinations to the Select Board at a public hearing. A written decision on such appeals shall be rendered with 14 business days of the close of such hearing(s).*

REGULATIONS FOR WETLANDS PROTECTION, 2018

These regulations complement and implement the Town of Arlington Wetlands Protection Bylaw.

These regulations set forth additional definitions, regulations and performance standards necessary to protect the values and/or intent of the Bylaw, protect additional resource areas and wetland values, and specify standards and procedures stricter than those of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's Wetlands Protection Act.

They ensure the protection of the following interests: public or private water supply, ground water supply, flood control, erosion control and sedimentation control, storm damage prevention, other water damage prevention, prevention of pollution, protection of surrounding land and other homes or buildings, wildlife protection, plant or wildlife habitat, aquatic species and their habitats, and the natural character or recreational values of the wetland resources.

- A. *Areas subject to protection under the Bylaw and these regulations:*
 - 2. *Any marsh, freshwater wetland, vernal pool, wet meadow, bog, swamp.*
 - 3. *Any river, stream, creek, pond, reservoir, or lake.*
 - 4. *Any bank of the areas set forth in A(1) or A(2) above.*
 - 5. *Any land under the areas set forth in A(2) above said waters.*
 - 6. *Any land bordering the areas set forth in A(1) or A(2) or A(3) above.*
 - 7. *Any riverfront area as hereinafter defined.*

Town of Arlington Policies (continued)

8. *Any land subject to flooding or inundation.*

The complete and most up-to-date regulations can be found here:

- <https://www.arlingtonma.gov/home/showpublisheddocument?id=45525>

CONSERVATION COMMISSION CONSERVATION LAND REGULATIONS, 2002

The Town's conservation land regulations establishes rules for lands under jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission. The regulations are as follows:

1. *Conservation areas are open daily from dawn until dusk.*
2. *Do not remove, cut, or damage trees, shrubs, plants, flowers, or wildlife.*
3. *Do not deface any natural or human-made objects.*
4. *Do not dump or leave litter or garbage. Carry out what you carry in.*
5. *Do not build fires.*
6. *Do not feed waterfowl.*
7. *Alcoholic beverages are not allowed.*
8. *Hunting, shooting or trapping are not allowed. Fishing is allowed only where posted.*
9. *Camping is not allowed.*
10. *Bicycles are not allowed except on designated bike trails.*
11. *Horses are not allowed.*
12. *Vehicles are not allowed except for authorized maintenance activities.*

13. *Cutting of trails, erection of signs, building of structures, digging of holes, or damming of streams is not allowed except by written authorization of the Commission.*

14. *The use of conservation lands for commercial purposes is not allowed except by written authorization of the Commission.*

15. *Additional restrictions may be established in some areas for wildlife and habitat protection.*

16. *All public safety bylaws of the Town apply to conservation lands.*

The complete and most up-to-date regulations can be found here:

- <https://www.arlingtonma.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/56334/637562334197330000>

FIELD PERMIT POLICY

The policy establishes a hierarchy of user groups which defines which groups have priority in receiving a field permit.

The Parks and Recreation Commission has developed the ... field permit policy to assist in the scheduling and permitting of Town of Arlington Fields and Outdoor Spaces.

The policy also establishes a number of other policies, which include:

- When/why the DPW closes the field for unsafe conditions, i.e., inclement weather
- Permitting public spaces for large groups and/or special events
- Hours and rules for use of lighting fields and courts

Town of Arlington Policies (continued)

The complete and most up-to-date regulations can be found here:

- <https://www.arlingtonma.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/54589/637479539970030000>

RECREATION EQUIPMENT STORAGE FACILITY POLICY

High Schools and Arlington Sports Organizations may seek permission to erect any non-permanent equipment storage shed on town property through the following procedure. For the purpose of this policy, “non-permanent” is defined as a structure without a poured foundation that is capable of being moved to another location if necessary.

TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Management responsibilities for Arlington’s urban forest are shared between several parties including:

- Department of Public Works Tree Department
- Contract Labor: including outside suppliers for tree planting, tree maintenance and removal, hired under contract by the Director of the Department of Public Works.
- Tree Warden:
 - General responsibilities: Overseeing planting of new street trees; care of new trees; reviewing proposed tree removals and maintenance; holding tree hearings per requirement of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 87; reviewing and monitoring tree plans per Arlington’s Article 16 Tree Preservation Bylaw, and community outreach

- Tree Committee: The Arlington Tree Committee was established in 2010 by the Arlington Select Board. The mission of the Committee is to promote the protection, planting, and care of trees in Arlington and to support the Town’s Tree Department.
- Article 16, The Tree Preservation Bylaw, passed by a large majority at the 2016 Town Meeting. The Bylaw states that removal of protected trees (healthy trees 10 inches or greater within the setback) on private property (under applicable circumstances) is prohibited unless the removal is authorized by written approval of a Tree Plan.

The complete and most up-to-date regulations can be found here:

- <https://www.arlingtonma.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/58747/637725688434730000>

TREE CONSTRUCTION GUIDELINES

Arlington requires the development of a Tree Plan and adherence to Tree Protection Methods. These guidelines establish the process of creating a tree plan, ad guidelines for protecting trees during construction, as well as general tree protection and preservation guidelines.

The complete and most up-to-date regulations can be found here:

- <https://www.arlingtonma.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/50911/637223614338130000>

Town of Arlington Policies (continued)

GENERAL CEMETERY POLICY

The Town's cemetery policy includes the which stipulate how the cemetery grounds are used. As they pertain to this project, some of these policies include speed of vehicular traffic, fines for disrespectful behavior with the cemetery grounds, and prohibited activities, such as dig walking and accessing the grounds after dusk.

The complete and most up-to-date regulations can be found here:

- <https://www.arlingtonma.gov/departments/public-works/mt-pleasant-cemetery/rules-regulations>

OFF-LEASH DOGS IN ARLINGTON

The Town has established rules for off-leash dogs within parks and conservation lands. An April 2019 states the following:

- *In spring 2010, Arlington Town Meeting approved a by-law amendment allowing responsible dog owners to have their dogs off-leash during limited morning hours. From park opening time until 9:00 am, a maximum of 2 dogs per handler may be off-leash, under effective owner control, in all lands under control of the Park & Recreation Commission except:*
 - A. *Those lands directly contiguous to school properties*
 - B. *Within 15 feet of playground equipment*
 - C. *When DPW is doing work at the parks*
 - D. *By specific exclusion of the Park & Recreation Commission*

All parks with off-leash times will have signs and waste cans. Owners with off-leash dogs will be allowed ... from 6:00 am

until 9:00 am only (unless otherwise noted or posted).

Exceptions to these standard rules are noted within the site discussion.

Additional rules include:

- *Dogs are to be kept off baseball diamonds at all times.*
- *Off-leash dog activity is suspended when parks and fields are closed due to weather conditions or special events.*
- *During the spring and fall sports seasons off-leash hours end at 8:00am at athletic fields*
- *During the spring and fall sports seasons off-leash hours end at 8:00am at athletic fields*

The complete and most up-to-date regulations can be found here:

- <https://www.arlingtonma.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/41504/637583304631970000>

DESIGN STANDARDS FOR THE TOWN OF ARLINGTON, 2015

Arlington's Design Standards were created to enhance the economic vitality of the Town through attractive and consistent design. They have been created as an outgrowth of economic development goals identified in the Arlington Master Plan (adopted February, 2015) that seek to identify areas of "economic underutilization". These Design Standards are envisioned as a first step in updating the Zoning By-Law, and they are tailored specifically to Arlington by focusing on the primary corridors unique to Arlington: Massachusetts Avenue and Broadway, the Mill Brook and the Minuteman Bikeway.

Town of Arlington Policies (continued)

The standards apply to the open spaces along the Mill Brook and Minuteman Bikeway corridors.

The complete and most up-to-date standards can be found here:

- <https://www.arlingtonma.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/45347/636842906363630000>

Town of Arlington guidance documents

POLICY ON VOLUNTEER PROJECTS ON CONSERVATION LANDS

The Arlington Conservation Commission manages over two dozen parcels of conservation land that vary widely in size and total approximately 54 acres. The Park & Recreation Department owns 41% of this land. The Commission is interested in maintaining and enhancing the environmental quality of these lands, and in encouraging and enhancing appropriate public use. In keeping with those goals, the Commission welcomes and encourages volunteer projects to enhance and improve these lands.

General Goals

- 1. Maintain and enhance the wildlife habitat.*
- 2. Encourage native plants.*
- 3. Manage invasive plants.*
- 4. Enable public access for passive recreation where it does not conflict with the previous goals.*
- 5. Provide appropriate signage to identify the area and encourage appreciation and appropriate use.*

Work on parcels include inspection for illegal dumping, trash removal, leaf removal, tree maintenance over trails, etc.

INVASIVE PLANTS IN ARLINGTON

This handout shows some of the more common local invasive plants, although there are quite a few more. Not all such plants are from foreign lands. Poison ivy, for example, is a native that can take over in some places.

How to manage invasive plants:

- The most effective way generally is to remove the entire plant including the roots. Cutting is also effective, but may need to be repeated. Herbicides can also be used but may affect neighboring plants. For some plants cutting followed by applying herbicide to the cut stem can be most effective.*

How to dispose of invasive plants in Arlington:

You may find invasive plants on your property and want to remove them to allow other things to grow. You can collect and dispose of them in a covered pile in a corner of your property, but should not put them into your regular compost pile. You can however put them out with the trash pickup following these rules:

- Do Not put them in the regular yard waste as that is composted and the seeds or roots may return when the compost is used in our parks and gardens.*

Small amounts can be put in with the regular household trash in black plastic bags. Larger amounts may be put in plastic bags labeled "WEEDS". Stickers are available from DPW.

Town of Arlington guidance documents (continued)

TREE MAINTENANCE INFORMATION

The Tree Warden identifies street trees for removal beginning in late May or early June, when healthy trees have leafed out and dead or dying specimens can easily be identified. Tree crews also keep an eye out for hazardous dead limbs. Trimming and removal work takes place year-round, depending on weather conditions.

- *Step 1: The crew removes upper limbs, down to the main trunk.*
- *Step 2: The main trunk is cut into lengths and removed.*
- *Step 3: The stump is ground.*

Healthy street trees cannot be cut down—either at the request of residents or the Tree Warden—without a hearing.

Anyone who objects to the removal must protest by writing to the Tree Warden or by appearing at the scheduled hearing. The removal request will be turned down if there are any objections.

Residents who ask for removal of a healthy street tree are legally responsible for all costs associated with this process, including notification, conducting the hearing, removing the tree, and planting a replacement in a nearby location.

Planting New Street Trees:

The Arlington Tree Division orders about 300 bare-root trees per year and plant approximately half in the spring and half in the fall.

Regular watering of young trees are vital to the long-standing health of the tree and it is expected that residents regularly water these trees in the first 2-3 years of being planted, and during droughts after the tree has been established.

Part 3. Best management practices & funding opportunities

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

- General practices for public open space
- Forest management
- Vista management
- Tree management
- Turf management
- Meadow/grassland management
- Invasive species management
- Trails & circulation
- Natural resources
- Pollinator garden management
- Management for wildlife
- Community gardens
- Vegetation in historic landscapes
- Cultural resources
- Cemetery & burial ground management
- Green infrastructure
- GIS Management

FEDERAL, STATE & MUNICIPAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- Carol M. White Fund Physical Education Program
- Massachusetts Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)
- Massachusetts Environmental Trust (MET) Grant Programs
- Massachusetts Non-point Source (Section 319) Program
- Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund
- Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Action Grant
- Massachusetts Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- MassTrails

PRIVATE GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

- Garden Conservancy Grant Program
- Acres for America
- Mass Audubon Judy Record Conservation Fund
- Field Pond foundation

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Massachusetts Community Grant Finder

Best management practices

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation & Recreation (DCR) has published a series of briefs for Best Management Practices (BMPs) for the various landscape types that they manage in the vast state park, trail, forest, and reservation system. The landscape types managed by DCR are very similar to those included in Arlington. DCR's BMP briefs are extremely valuable as guiding examples for public land management.

Other BMPs were sourced from specific organizations which specialize in land management such as the *Parks Best Management Planning White Paper* prepared by the Houston-Galveston Area Council, 2016, the University of Massachusetts Extension Turf Program's *Best Management Plan for Lawn and Landscape Turf, version 1.51*, and *Best Practices for Community Gardening* as published by the Resilient Communities Project, from the University of Minnesota.

The BMPs, as applicable to this project, have been categorized and summarized herein. These practices are meant to be reviewed as aspirational, with the understanding that some may already be in effect in Arlington, while others are more long-term strategies.

GENERAL PRACTICES FOR PUBLIC OPEN SPACE

A. Design and planning

1. Work with the natural configuration of the land and protect existing natural systems
2. Use Green Infrastructure and Low Impact Development techniques to reduce pollution and efficiently manage stormwater runoff
3. Design for ease of maintenance
4. Design for common use & events with less impact
5. Control circulation & access
6. Capitalize on land that is already developed or in use within the park
7. Standardize and limit the numbers and types of site furnishings
8. In park conditions, consider paving under seating, trash containers, and informational/interpretive signs to reduce maintenance levels and mowing needs
9. Choose native plants and grass species to minimize upkeep

B. Connectivity

1. Provide connections to integrated open space via bicycle and pedestrian trails and complementary infrastructure to encourage use of trails
2. Treat landscapes as interdependent and interconnected natural systems to help preserve essential ecological functions and protect biodiversity

C. Staffing

1. Organize maintenance staff by zone and specialties.

Best management practices (continued)

FOREST MANAGEMENT

- A. Forestry practices
 - 2. Have professional forester review wooded areas and outline recommendations for stand health and any forest management needed to sustain a healthy, diverse forest.
 - 3. Forester should break out the forest sections by woodland typology.
 - 4. Each section should be mapped via GIS, refer to GIS management BMP for criteria.
- B. Tree pruning with high-risk targets (adjacent paths/site amenities)
 - 1. Safety/hazardous pruning and tree removals: Remove all deadwood and hazardous branches greater than 2" diameter. Trees that have more than 50% of the canopy compromised and/or in decline should be candidates for removal. All trees that could impact a pathway and/or a site amenity should have this level of review. All work conducted shall be performed by a Massachusetts Certified Arborist
 - 2. Yearly monitoring by the Town of Arlington Tree Warden and/or a hired sub-consultant Massachusetts Certified Arborists.
 - 3. Deadwood: Pruning dead or decaying branches, 2 inches in diameter or greater should be pruned on a 7-year pruning cycle. Forest or Woodland sections that are adjacent to parkways and/or highly trafficked roadways should be on a 3-year pruning cycle.
 - 4. Vista pruning
 - a. See section on Vista management
- C. Natural regeneration promotion
 - 1. Monitor wooded areas for native regenerating tree and shrub seedlings.
 - 2. Add temporary fencing if the plant material(s) need additional protection from foot traffic, grazing and/or browsing.
 - 3. Fencing should be installed for 3-5 years depending on the site.
- D. Canopy gap management
 - 1. Canopy gaps can present the opportunity for invasive vegetation to become established.
 - a. Recommend planting with native seedlings
 - b. Temporary fencing with educational signage to protect seedlings and natural regeneration.
 - c. Monitor areas for invasive vegetation.
- E. Forest cleanliness
 - 1. Leave fallen trees to encourage soil generation and habitat.
 - a. Any trees that are removed due to hazardous conditions should be spread around the tree site. The limbs should be dispersed to avoid large piles of debris.
 - 2. Do not remove leaves in any wooded areas that may have these maintenance practices prior. Decaying leaves add to the forest's duff and organic layers of the soil profile.
 - 3. Leave snags (standing dead trees) for habitat. If arboriculture work is taking place on a tree that is a candidate to be a snag, a Massachusetts Certified

Best management practices (continued)

Arborist should remove limbs from these trees to create a safe environment.

4. Educate the public about these practices.

F. Forest soils

1. Erosion repair: Forest Duff/Topsoil Development

- a. Construct log cribs to slow stormwater runoff and contain soil.
- b. Install temporary fencing to prevent disturbance of regenerating soils.
 - Educate the public through interpretive signage

2. Vertical mulching

- a. Fill 4-inch wide by 18-inch deep holes with organic mulch mix
- b. Space at 6 feet on center for the extent of critical root growth
- c. Install temporary fencing to prevent disturbance of regenerating soils.
 - Educate the public through interpretive signage

3. Vertical staking

- a. Drive vertical stakes (hardwood or collected tree branches) into the soil to break up compaction and add organic material into the soil profile.
- b. Install erosion control blankets within the vertical staking areas.
- c. Install temporary fencing to prevent disturbance of regenerating soils.
 - Educate the public through interpretive signage

4. Tree planting and management

- a. General tree planting practices in woodland setting
 - Target open canopy gaps
 - Protective fencing
 - Plant areas should be protected by a barrier raised immediately after plant installation and shall be maintained for a minimum two-year establishment period.
 - Signs shall be placed on one side of the fencing that reads “PLANTING AREA”.
- b. Tree stakes
 - Stakes should be installed and stabilized with 2 inch by 2 inch hardwood stakes and attached via guide wire.
- c. Watering bags (if trees are in an accessible location)
 - 20-gallon water bags should be installed on one or two of the tree stakes to encourage root growth away from the tree.
 - Watering bags should not be installed at the base of the tree.
- d. Species diversity
 - Review the species data analytics via the GIS database specific to a planting area.
 - Encourage the planting of new species to sites based on the 30:20:10, family:genus:species proportions.
- e. Acorn harvesting and planting
 - Volunteer and stewardship groups could collect various types of acorn and nut species:

Best management practices (continued)

- Oaks: acorns
- Hickory: nuts
- Acorns
 - Float test
 - Viable acorns will sink in a bucket of water
 - Storing
 - If not planted immediately acorns can be stored in a refrigerator in plastic bags until they can be planted.
 - Do not allow them to freeze.
 - Store acorn in peat moss/planting mix that is fairly moist
 - Planting
 - Best planting time: After the first Fall rain or pre-irrigate the soil to a depth of 1 foot, let soil dry out a bit before planting.
 - Turn over soil to a depth of 10 inches. Plant 3-4 acorns spread out 6-8" apart. Plant to a depth of 2 inches and lay acorn on its side.
 - Mulch each planting site extending out 3 to 4 feet to a depth of 2 to 3 inches
- Nuts
 - Storing with husk
 - Dry warm place and wait for the husks to split open.

- Planting
 - Plant seeds within a week of collecting it.
 - Turn soil to a depth of 12 inches
 - Work in 3 inches of compost and irrigate soil before planting.
 - Place several nuts on ground in each location press lightly into the moist soil and cover with about 1/2 of an inch of soil.
 - Thin as needed

F. Trail management

1. Social trails should be closed to encourage natural regeneration of plant material.
 - a. Fencing should be installed at either end of the pathway
 - b. De-compaction methods would be encouraged to help with natural regeneration.

Best management practices (continued)

VISTA MANAGEMENT

- A. Vista tree/shrub pruning
 1. Selective clearing and thinning of small trees, tree limbs and brush at historic vistas and overlooks will be required periodically to preserve dramatic views of significant historic and natural features and panoramic views of the surrounding landscape. Vista maintenance should focus on areas already influenced by human activity.
 2. Scenic vistas should be monitored and treated for invasive species on a regular basis.
 3. Retain selected trees to frame or enhance views, or for bird habitat. Avoid clear cutting by removing understory limbs from large trees.
 4. Side branches extending into the vista should be cut flush with the parent branch, leaving no stubs.

TREE MANAGEMENT

- A. Park Trees
 1. GIS Inventory/Mapping
 - a. See GIS management
 2. Monitoring
 - a. Park trees should be assessed and pruned on a 7-year pruning cycle and trees should be pruned on a site-by-site approach. Assessments should be used as a tool to create detailed and specific work plans.
 - b. Monitoring should take place each year for hazardous trees, conducted by the Town of Arlington. If the assessing work is subbed out, work should be conducted by a Massachusetts Certified Arborist
 - c. Town of Arlington Tree Warden or MA Certified Arborist shall review the trees annually for potential risk to abutters, infrastructure, etc.
 3. Pruning
 - a. Safety Pruning
 - Address the hazardous trees
 - b. Routine Deadwood Pruning
 - Dead or decaying limbs, 2 inches in diameter or greater.
 - c. Structural pruning for new trees
 - Young trees sized 6 to 12 inches diameter breast height (DBH)
 - Pruning methods should help train the tree, at a young age, to grow with a correct form to reduce

Best management practices (continued)

pruning and maintenance costs in the future.

B. Trees adjacent to parking lots

1. GIS Inventory/Mapping

- a. See GIS management

2. Monitoring

- a. Trees adjacent to parking lots should be assessed and pruned on a 3-5-year pruning cycle and trees should be pruned on a site-by-site approach. Assessments should be used as a tool to create detailed and specific work plans.
- b. Monitoring should take place each year for hazardous trees, conducted by the Town of Arlington. If the assessing work is subbed out, work should be conducted by a Massachusetts Certified Arborist
- c. Town of Arlington Tree Warden or MA Certified Arborist shall review the trees annually for potential risk to abutters, infrastructure, etc.

3. Pruning

a. Safety Pruning

- Address the hazardous trees

b. Routine Deadwood Pruning

- Dead or decaying limbs, 2" in diameter or greater.

c. Structural pruning for new trees

- Young trees sized 6 to 12 inches diameter breast height (DBH)
- Pruning methods should help train the tree, at a young age, to grow with a correct form to reduce

pruning and maintenance costs in the future.

C. Trees adjacent to paths/trails

1. GIS Inventory/Mapping

- a. See GIS management

2. Monitoring

- a. Trees adjacent to paths/trails should be assessed and pruned on a 3-5-year pruning cycle and trees should be pruned on a site-by-site approach. Assessments should be used as a tool to create detailed and specific work plans.
- b. Monitoring should take place each year for hazardous trees, conducted by the Town of Arlington. If the assessing work is subbed out, work should be conducted by a Massachusetts Certified Arborist
- c. Town of Arlington Tree Warden or MA Certified Arborist shall review the trees annually for potential risk to abutters, infrastructure, etc.

3. Pruning

a. Safety Pruning

- Address the hazardous trees

b. Routine Deadwood Pruning

- Dead or decaying limbs 2 inches in diameter or greater.

c. Structural pruning for new trees

- Young trees sized 6 to 12 inches diameter breast height (DBH)

- D. Pruning methods should help train the tree, at a young age, to grow with a correct form to reduce pruning and

Best management practices (continued)

maintenance costs in the future.

E. New tree plantings

1. Soil testing

- a. Prior to planting, planting sites should undergo a soil test to ensure physical and chemical properties of the soil will promote tree health.

2. Different planting typologies

- a. Site specific tree typologies
- b. New plantings should be reflective of the existing conditions (historic landscapes, landscapes with distinctive, character defining features, landscapes that feature plant material with specific forms, evergreen or deciduous, etc)

3. Species diversity

- a. Review the species data analytics via the GIS database specific to a planting area.
- b. Encourage the planting of new species to sites based on the 30:20:10, family:genus:species proportions.
- c. Species shall ideally be:
 - Native be to Massachusetts
 - Resilient to climate change
 - Hardy in present and future temperatures
 - Improve air quality
 - Have limited exposure to pest problems.

4. Plant Quality

- a. Provide healthy, vigorous stock, grown in a recognized nursery and reasonably free of disease,

insects, eggs, bores, and larvae. At the time of planting all plants shall have root system, stem, and branch form that will not restrict normal growth, stability and vigor for the expected life of the plant.

b. Plant quality

- Refer to American Standard for Nursery Stock for quality tree and nursery stock

5. Rootball options

a. Street trees

- Refer to the Town of Arlington Tree Management Plan for planting practices for bare root street trees

b. Park trees

- Container grown plants
 - Container-grown stock shall have been grown in a container long enough for the root system to have developed sufficiently to hold its potting medium together but not so long as to have developed Stem Girdling or matted roots circling around the edge of the container.
 - Avoid planting 'fall dig hazards' in the fall.
- Balled and burlapped trees
 - All balled and burlapped Plants shall be field grown, and the root ball packaged in a burlapped-and-twine or burlap-and-wire basket package.
 - Balled and burlapped trees shall be dug prior to leafing out (bud break) in the spring or during the fall planting period except

Best management practices (continued)

for plants known to be considered as fall planting hazards. Plants that are fall planting hazards shall only be dug prior to leafing out in the spring. Plants to be shipped or installed when in leaf shall be pre-dug prior to bud break and stored appropriately in protected storage yards with adequate water.

- During planting remove as much as the foreign soil from the root ball as possible without compromising the root system of the tree.

6. Planting practices (Design guidelines for tree quality and planting, tree trenches, and tree boxes from the Minnesota Stormwater Manual (<http://state.mn.us>))

- Be careful of tree species that are “fall dig hazards” that they have been dug in the spring and can be difficult to transplant in the fall.

a. Protective fencing

- Plant areas shall be protected by a barrier raised immediately after plant installation and shall be maintained for a minimum two-year establishment period.
- The protection fence shall be 3-foot high barrier constructed of 3-foot steel T-post set 2 feet (minimum) in the ground at 4-foot intervals maximum. The fencing shall be black vinyl-coated 14-gauge welded wire mesh with 1-inch by 2-inch openings, secured with tension wire at top and bottom.
- Signs shall be placed on one side of the fencing that reads “PLANTING AREA”.

b. Tree stakes

- Trees should only be guyed if in one of the three conditions: (a) planting trees on steep slopes, (b) trees planted on very windy sites, and/or (c) locations where there is potential for vandalism to remove or damage trees.
- In any of these conditions, consider the use of Tree Staples which are inserted into the rootball of the tree and remain in place.
- When guys are to be used, guying is to be flat woven polypropylene material, 3/4 inch wide, with 900-pound break strength. Product to be ArborTie, manufactured by Deep Root Partners, L.P., or approved equal.
- Stakes shall be 2 inch by 2 inch hardwood stakes free of knots (or approved equal) and of lengths appropriate to the size plant required to adequately support the plant.
- Dead men for large trees where required on the drawings shall be 4 inches by 4 inches by 4 feet long wood (or approved equal). Wood shall not be treated for rot protection.

7. Watering

- Trees will likely be under warranty for the first 1-2 years of being planted and should be watered by the installer during this time.
- For the first three years, the new tree should receive 20 gallons of water per week during the growing season.

Best management practices (continued)

c. Watering bags

- 20 gallon water bags should be installed on 1 or 2 of the tree stakes to encourage root growth away from the tree.
- Watering bags should not be installed at the base of the tree. Bags should be installed to the adjacent tree stakes to encourage root growth outside of the rootball.

TURF MANAGEMENT

A. Park Turf

1. General

- a. Control circulation & access
- b. Design for ease of maintenance

2. Mowing practices

- a. Mowing causes stress to the turfgrass. It temporarily stops root growth, reduces carbohydrate production and storage, creates ports of entry for diseases, and reduces water absorption by the roots
- b. Equipment must be kept sharp and properly adjusted so to not damage the turfgrass
- c. Heights
 - For parks, recommended mowing heights are based on the predominant species in the turfgrass blend:
 - Kentucky bluegrass: 1-1/2 to 3 inches
 - Fine fescue: 1-1/2 to 2 inches
 - Perennial ryegrass: 1-1/2 to 3 inches

- Tall fescue: 2 to 3 inches

- Mowing heights in parks should err on the higher side for turf health and to ease maintenance requirements.
- In the heat of summer or in the event of a drought, mowing regimes should be paused when turf is not growing. In addition to reducing maintenance requirements, this will also reduce levels of dust in the parks.
- Mowing heights should be increased in areas that are shaded from direct sun.

3. Soil testing

- a. Soil testing should be conducted by a county cooperative extension program, or at the University of Massachusetts Soil Testing Laboratory.
 - Incorporate sand and/or compost as needed, especially with fields that are high in silt or clay content.

4. Fertilizing program

- a. Use sustainable maintenance practices.
 - Begin to move toward organic practices and implement as possible.
 - Limit the use of commercial fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides, and use chemicals responsibly when necessary.

5. Soil compaction program

- a. Address soil compaction with turf closures and rotations, limited traffic, post-event treatments, engineered soils, and irrigation.

Best management practices (continued)

- b. Consider rotational turf panels which allow turf areas to rest after a heavy use event
- 6. Off-leash dog recreation areas
 - a. Dogs can cause significant impact to turf areas. They tend to cause wear on turfgrass in specific areas based on their patterns of use.
 - b. The Town has an off-leash dog recreation areas throughout the system of parks and fields. At almost all locations, these are limited hours which do not impact school or sport group use. Limiting the hours and locations is good for turfgrass management.
 - c. In these locations, if traffic from dogs becomes excessive, the turfgrass may need to be renovated, or off-leash dog areas can be rotated.
 - d. Increase nitrogen fertility rates (within recommended guidelines) in these off-leash dog recreation areas will promote a quicker turfgrass recovery.
 - e. When renovation is necessary, re-seeding should be undertaken during the appropriate establishment period may be required to maintain the turfgrass stand. Pets should temporarily excluded from these areas during re-seeding.
- B. Sports field turf
 - 1. Soil testing
 - a. Soil testing should be conducted by a county cooperative extension program, or at the University of Massachusetts Soil Testing Laboratory. Soils should be tested for Sports Turf/Golf Fairway, New Establishment or Maintenance, as appropriate to the circumstances.
 - b. Soils for athletic fields should be firm enough to resist compaction with heavy use, but springy or yielding for the safety of athletes. Soils heavy in clay and silt are more likely to compact than sandy soils and will drain poorly.
- 2. Soil amendment
 - a. Modify topsoil to achieve proper gradation. Incorporate sand and/or compost as needed, especially with fields that are high in silt or clay content.
 - b. With irrigation, ideal sports fields are contain at least 75% sand. Soils in this range are classified as sandy loams, loamy sands, or sand
 - c. Soil modification, either by topdressing or by mixing the sand directly into the topsoil, should be at least 8 inches deep, 12 inches is preferred.
 - Amending existing soils with organic matter will increase the water and nutrient holding capacity.
- 3. Soil de-compaction program
 - a. Compaction of topsoil prevents water infiltration which results in puddling of the field and poor root growth.
 - b. High use fields should be aerated as many as four times per year.
 - c. Deep tine aeration should be undertaken in spring, prior to over-seeding.
- 4. Irrigation
 - a. All fields should be irrigated when renovated, sports fields require approximately 1 to 1-1/2 inches of water per week in the northeast.

Best management practices (continued)

- b. Rain sensors should be included in the irrigation system to not waste water or over water the field.

5. Drainage

- a. Ensure positive drainage across and away from fields to reduce puddling.
- b. Poorly drained soils are more prone to compaction.
- c. Follow NCAA or MIAA guidelines for proper surface drainage patterns for fields by sport.
- d. Water needs to be removed both from the surface of a field, as well as the subsurface. Sand-based soils require subsurface drainage to ensure that the rootzone of the turf is not inundated.
- e. Vertical trenching can be implemented to assist in surface drainage. Vertical trenches are dug at 10 to 15 feet on center, 12 to 18 inches deep, and no more than 3 inches wide. These trenches are filled with washed sand and should have small slit perforated pipe at the bottom of the trench. These systems will rapidly remove surface water from a field.
- f. Establish vegetated swales or detention basins/ rain gardens beyond sports field use zones, as necessary, to allow stormwater to be treated and to infiltrate.

6. Turf replacement

- a. Seed or lay sod with blends of tall fescue, Kentucky bluegrass, and ryegrass
- b. After re-seeding ensure a full season of growth prior to use.
- c. Seed should ideally be laid between August 15 and

September 15. Fall planting is preferred over spring as the seeds germinate and grow quickly in the warmer soil. Warm days and cool nights are ideal for seedling growth with less competition from weed seed.

- d. Spring seeding can be accomplished with irrigation, but there will be significant weed seed competition without application of a pre-emergent herbicide. (Herbicides should be carefully selected to ensure that they will not inhibit the growth of turfgrass seedlings.)
- e. Sod can be laid at any time of year with irrigation especially in the hot, dry season.
- f. Consider reinforcement of high use areas (i.e., center of field and in front of goals for soccer fields)

7. Mowing practices

- a. Mowing causes stress to the turfgrass. It temporarily stops root growth, reduces carbohydrate production and storage, creates ports of entry for diseases, and reduces water absorption by the roots
- b. Equipment must be kept sharp and properly adjusted so to not damage the turfgrass
- c. Heights
 - Maintain the optimum mowing height for fields sport as follows:
 - Baseball infield: 3/4 to 1-1/2 inches in season; 2 to 2-1/2 inches in off-season
 - Baseball outfield: 1 to 1-1/2 inches in season; 2 to 2-1/2 inches in off-season
 - Soccer field: 1 to 1-1/2 inches in season; 2

Best management practices (continued)

to 2-1/2 inches in off-season

- Football field: 1-1/2 to 1-3/4 inches in season; 2 to 2-1/2 inches in off-season
- Field hockey field: 3/4 to 1-1/2 inches in season; 2 to 2-1/2 inches in off-season
- Lacrosse field: 1-1/2 to 2 inches in season; 2-1/2 to 3 inches in off-season
- Rugby field: 1-1/2 to 2 inches in season; 2-1/2 to 3 inches in off-season
- Intramural fields: 2 to 2-1/2 inches in season; 2-1/2 to 3 inches in off-season
- Mowing heights may also be adjusted depending on the blend of turfgrasses. The more Kentucky bluegrass in the blend, the higher the tolerance for shorter mowing heights. The higher the content of tall fescue in the blend, the lower the tolerance.
- Mowing heights should be increased in areas that are shaded from direct sun

8. De-thatching

- a. More than 3/4 of an inch of thatch should not be allowed to remain on sport fields.
- b. Thatch buildup will be dependent of the type of turfgrass species that makes up the field.
- c. Topdressing turf with a thin layer of soil will help with the decomposition of the thatch and aid in irrigation and fertilization of soil.

9. Turf treatment

- a. Herbicide applications

- Herbicides should be carefully selected to ensure that they will not inhibit the growth of turfgrass seedlings.

b. Fertilizing program

- Use sustainable maintenance practices.
- Begin to move toward organic practices and implement as possible.
- Limit the use of commercial fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides, and use chemicals responsibly when necessary.
- Fertilization at the time of seeding or laying sod is critical to properly add amendments to the turfgrass rootzone.
- Nitrogen fertilizer will encourage recovery from use.

10. Programming

- a. As much as possible, alternative use patterns to reduce wear
- b. Limit use of fields after periods of heavy rain to reduce wear

11. Staffing

- a. Consider adding a field maintenance coordinator to Parks Division of Public Works to management of sports turf fields throughout the Town

Best management practices (continued)

MEADOW/GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT

A. Mowing

1. General

- a. Reduce width of mown trails to reduce impact on resources (time, fuel, etc.)
- b. Avoid mowing entire meadows in one year for a diversity of habitat. When possible, divide meadows into two or three sections and shift those zones every other year.
- c. Mow in a pattern that allows wildlife to escape
 - For example, start mowing from the center of the field and use either a back-and-forth approach, or a large circular pattern. This avoids cornering fleeing wildlife where they may be killed or stranded.
 - Mow in low gear or at slow speeds so that wildlife has time to avoid equipment

2. Timing

- a. Mowing during the growing season should not be necessary after meadow establishment unless used in lieu of herbicides to control weeds, in which case, mowing height should be no lower than 8 inches.
- b. If mowing in fall, mow as late in the year as possible (habitat); after flowers have died back; no earlier than Sept. 15th
- c. Early season mowing (at 2 inches height) to reduce the woody vegetation and forbs for the coming season is one approach. Mowing before May 15 will help control the unwanted vegetation and still have the field available for nesting, cover and food for

wildlife through the winter.

- d. At a minimum, meadows should be mown every one to three years to control the growth of woody growth.

3. Heights

- a. Mow meadows with equipment deck heights of no lower than 8 inches, ideally as high as 12 inches if possible

B. Establishment of new meadows

1. Season for establishment

a. Spring seeding

- Cool season species germinate soon after seeding.
- Germination of warm season species generally occurs within three weeks of the soil temperature reaching 55° F.
- Seed loss due to decay and wildlife consumption is minimized.
- Seed-to-soil contact should be accomplished by working the seed into the soil 1/4 to 1/2 of an inch deep.
- Seeding can be delayed until weed control is applied in order to improve establishment.
- Irrigation during periods of dry weather is necessary for proper germination.
- Light mulching is an important element of seeding to protect both the seed and soil and retain moisture.
- Native grass biomass seedings are generally done during the spring when soil temperature is

Best management practices (continued)

near 55 °F and rising.

b. Fall (dormant) seeding

- Fall seeding imitates natural reseeding
- Frost seeding is the broadcasting of seed over frozen soil following the first killing frost.
- Good seed-to-soil contact occurs through natural moisture and frost action.
- Some natural stratification occurs; i.e., natural changes occur to the seed and seed coat during the winter that enhance germination.
- Germination will most likely not occur until spring.
- Some cool season species will establish during winter; however, warm season grasses and most forbs will germinate in the spring.
- Some seed can be lost to decay and wildlife consumption during the winter.
- Establishment may be hindered by weed competition that begins during the winter.
- Mulching is an important element of dormant seeding to protect both the seed and soil and retain moisture.

2. Site preparation

- #### a.
- If the site for new meadow was previously a lawn to which herbicides were applied, it is important that an appropriate interval is included prior to planting the meadow to allow for the residues of those herbicides to break down prior to. Some herbicide residues can prevent seedling germination.

- #### b.
- Competition from invasive or undesirable vegetation is the most limiting factor in upland meadow preparation. Prior to planting, all such vegetation must be fully controlled. Typical control strategies include repeated tilling, smothering with black plastic, or herbicides.

3. Growing season maintenance

a. First Growing Season

- When vegetation reaches a height of 18 inches trim the meadow to a height of 8 inches. This will reduce competition by fast-growing weeds for sunlight, water and nutrients needed by slow-growing perennial natives. Mowing should cease by mid-September.
- For seedings of annual wildflower mixes or annual & perennial wildflower mixes, problem weeds should be hand pulled.
- Problem weeds should be hand pulled or spot sprayed with approved herbicides

b. Second Growing Season

- Prior to new spring growth reaching a height of 2 inches, trim any material standing from the previous year close to the ground (approximately 2 inches). This will allow the soil to warm more quickly, which will stimulate the emergence and growth of native seedlings and reduce the likelihood of the meadow being invaded by shrubs.
- Problem weeds should be hand pulled or spot sprayed with an approved herbicide.

Best management practices (continued)

C. Maintained trails

1. If a trail passes through your grassland, mow the trail edges as needed with a small lawnmower to keep the trail open as a single track.

D. Invasive management

1. Hand cut any fruiting invasives to avoid spread
2. Wash equipment both before and after mowing in order to prevent the spread of invasive plants.

E. Education for visitors & maintenance staff

1. Educate park visitors about the goals and benefits of your incorporating meadows into parks and public landscapes. Healthy, vegetated meadows look different than traditional turf, and may be unfamiliar to the public.
2. Dog walkers, in particular, should be educated about the benefits of meadows and how off-leash dogs can detract from these benefits. Off-leash dogs have perhaps the biggest impact on nesting birds; unleashed dogs increased the chances of chicks dying before fledging by 23%.
3. Symbolic fencing: fencing that structurally keeps people and dogs out of meadows is not necessary, if it is supported with informative signage. A simple stake and rope sends a clear message that the meadow is not meant for public access.
 - a. A simple fence line also gives cues to maintenance staff where to stop mowing.

INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT

A. General

1. It is best to eradicate colonizing populations immediately upon detection before they become fully established or disperse to other locations.
2. Once invasive species have become established and expand their coverage, control is substantially more difficult and expensive to implement successfully.
3. Encourage volunteer groups to monitor and control invasive plant infestations, with oversight.
4. Vehicles and any other equipment should be visually inspected and washed in a gravel or paved area, prior to use, if any soil, seeds, or plant materials may be attached.
5. Avoid importing new soils or gravel for Arlington properties, unless it has been washed or monitored for seeds and invasive plants.
6. Monitor properties annually for invasives, especially near boundaries and disturbed areas (e.g., roadsides, trailheads). Eliminate new infestations as soon as observed – manually if possible.
7. Do not chip and mulch any fruiting invasive plants or those with seeds.

B. Mechanical Control Methods

1. Hand pulling is a good way to deal with young plants and small populations. Use a weeder, trowel, spade, or weed wrench to remove the entire plant and root system.
2. Repeated cutting or mowing may be an option when the invasive is in a large patch and the root systems are

Best management practices (continued)

extensive. Mowing/cutting is needed prior to flowering and multiple times per season.

3. Weed Wrench: For woody shrubs and smaller trees, weed wrenches can be used up to a certain size (roughly 3" diameter material).
4. Some invasive species (e.g., goutweed, bittersweet) have extensive root systems where a small fragment of root will sprout a new plant. For these species, removing all above-ground vegetation and covering the entire population with layers of black plastic held in place may be an option, although the plastic needs to remain in place for a long time (1 to 4 growing seasons).
 - a. Bag and dispose of invasive plants at a licensed landfill or incinerator.
 - b. Do not dispose of invasive plant materials in Priority Habitat or natural areas.
5. Frilling: On large sized woody material (generally single stemmed), frilling or girdling the tree is a viable option. Remove a strip of bark around the entire circumference of the plant's trunk or stems.

C. Chemical Control Methods

1. Herbicides

- a. Herbicide applications would be encouraged for large swaths of invasive plant material, by a Massachusetts Licensed Applicator, and in low impact public lands.
- b. Any herbicide use must be permitted through the Conservation Commission in conservation jurisdictional areas. Chemical treatments should only be used when manual removal will not be effective.

- c. Herbicides must be applied by a licensed applicator.
- d. For large woody invasive species, herbicide applied to the cut trunk or stem surface (frilling) immediately after cutting is an effective method.
- e. On large infestations, a foliar application via herbicide-soaked glove ("glove of death"), can be effective without the ramifications of over spraying, drifting, etc.
- f. Foliar applications must be carefully targeted to avoid mortality of native species.

D. Other Techniques for Managing Invasive Plants

1. For large infestations, federally approved biological control agents may be an option to control certain invasives.

TRAILS & CIRCULATION

A. Design and planning considerations

1. Define path widths and trail surface materials based on intended user types (i.e., pedestrians, cyclists)
2. Layout trails so that they impact as little as possible the existing conditions and natural resources, but still provide an interesting experience for the user
3. Eliminate small colonies of invasive species before allowed to spread
4. Utilize vehicle exclusion barriers to separate vehicular and pedestrian conflicts

B. General trail management includes

1. Directing water off trail and reduce erosion from hills and trails, consider adding swales, water bars, etc. to

Best management practices (continued)

move water off of trail surfaces

2. Maintaining existing drainage structures
3. Clearing of vegetation which encroaches trails and their shoulders
4. Maintaining and replacing trail signage
5. Maintaining and replacing any boardwalks, puncheons, and bridges
6. Maintaining and replacing edging, curbing, water bars, etc.
7. Repairs to edging and stone steps and cribbing
8. Trail maintenance activities within Priority Habitat for rare species may be subject to restrictions.
9. Heavily used trails within 50 feet of a potential vernal pool or other areas which frequently puddle should be assessed for possible rerouting to a less sensitive adjacent location if they have the potential to negatively impact the pool or species that live in them. Motorized trails should not be located within 100 feet of a potential vernal pool.

C. Trail closures

1. Eliminate short trail spurs and redundant trail segments
2. Close existing trails that contribute to resource damage
3. Close trails that are very steep and/or that are impacting tree roots
4. De-compact soils and re-vegetate
5. Educate to reinforce resource protection messaging.
 - a. Educate visitors on park programs that target resource protection challenges.

- b. Display positive messaging and park rules

D. Accessibility

1. Any programs or recreational opportunities open to the public will need to follow Massachusetts Architectural Access Board (MAAB) and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations.
 - a. When using federal funds to construct trails, the Guidelines for Outdoor Developed Areas (GODA) needs to be followed for trail development.
 - b. If federal funding is not used, there are technically no trail guidelines for accessibility at the state level (MAAB).
 - c. Every recreational opportunity does not need to be ADA accessible, however, the Town should provide people with disabilities equal opportunities to participate in recreational opportunities in the town. Not every trail has to be accessible nor can or should be made accessible if it would fundamentally alter the experience of that activity and/or the resource.
 - d. This means, the Town should review all trails and conservation areas and have an equal representation for the type of experience offered for that activity that is accessible to people of all abilities.
2. Accessibility guidelines that impact trail design includes but not is limited to the following trail characteristics:
 - a. Trail surface: firm and stable surface impacts materials and roots in the trails
 - b. Trail gradients: longitudinal and cross-slope

Best management practices (continued)

- c. Trail clearances and obstructions: i.e., branches and trees in the trail
- E. Signage
 - 1. General signage
 - 2. Provide information that is identifiable, consistent, understandable, and current.
 - a. Present coordinated visitor information, orientation, interpretation signs.
 - 2. Trailheads
 - a. Trailheads should be delineated with signage that provides visitors about the trail opportunities ahead of them and provides them with the following information, at a minimum:
 - Length of the trail or trail segment
 - Type of trail surface
 - Typical and minimum trail tread width
 - Typical and maximum trail grade
 - Typical and maximum trail cross slope
 - Level of difficulty and whether trails meet accessibility requirements
 - Wayfinding: connections and opportunities
 - Rules and available hours
- F. Off-leash dogs
 - 1. Interpretive signs telling about wildlife and the various types of habitat and the adverse impacts of loose dogs can be posted at key season, such as during the nesting season, at trailheads and kiosks

- 2. Prepare and install interpretive signs at parking lot and trail heads to educate visitors about the importance of keeping dogs on-leash, or where dogs can be allowed off-leash.

G. Invasives

- 1. Prioritize invasive in parks/Strategically treat invasive plants within the property:
 - a. Treat invasive plants along the trail system
 - b. Treat invasive plants along the edges of the fields
 - c. Treat invasive plants within the forested areas

NATURAL RESOURCES

A. Bank Stabilization

- 1. General bank stabilization
 - a. Monitor for the following problems on an annual basis
 - Erosion
 - Sedimentation
 - Soils
 - Surface Cover
 - Topography
 - Climate
 - b. Identify problem areas
 - Site specific conditions
- 2. Adjacent to stream/brook
 - a. Planning Considerations
 - Preserving natural vegetation or plantings in clumps, blocks, or strips is generally the easiest

Best management practices (continued)

and most successful method.

- Establishing new buffer strips requires the establishment of a good dense turf, trees, and shrubs.
- Careful maintenance is important to ensure healthy vegetation.
- The need for routine maintenance such as mowing, fertilizing, liming, irrigating, pruning, and weed and pest control will depend on the species of plants and trees involved, soil types, and climatic conditions.
- Leave all unstable steep slopes in natural vegetation.
- Fence or flag clearing limits and keep all equipment and construction debris out of the natural areas.
- Keep all excavations outside the drip line of trees and shrubs.
- Do not push debris or extra soil into the buffer zone area because it will cause damage from burying and smothering.

b. Methods

- Design solutions for runoff velocity less than 6 feet per second
 - Vegetative methods
 - Soil bioengineering methods
 - Structural methods
- Design solutions for runoff velocity greater than 6 feet per second
 - Soil bioengineering methods

- Structural methods

B. Steep terrain (National Menu of Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Stormwater-Construction, US EPA)

1. Site Planning and management

a. Erosion Control

- Chemical stabilization
- Compost blanket
- Dust control
- Geotextiles/matting
- Gradient terracing
- Grading
- Laying sod
- Mulching
- Riprap
- Permanent seeding
- Soil retention
- Soil roughening
- Temporary slope drains
- Wind and sand fences

b. Runoff Control

- Check dams
- Grass lined channels
- Grading
- Log cribbing

c. Sediment control

- Brush barrier
- Compost filter berm
- Compost filter socks
- Filter berms
- Sediment basins and rock dams
- Sediment filters and sediment chambers

Best management practices (continued)

- Sediment traps
 - Silt fences
 - Storm drain inlet protection
 - Straw or hay bales
 - Vegetated buffer
- d. Material Management
- Concrete washout
 - Site waste management
 - Spill prevention and control measures
 - Vehicle maintenance and washing areas

POLLINATOR GARDEN MANAGEMENT

A. Planning

1. Target areas that are suitable for pollinator habitat by planting native seeds or live plants and/or revising maintenance schedules for mowing.
2. Avoid sensitive natural or cultural resources such as certain rare species habitats or historic sites that would suffer detrimental impacts from a change in management practices. A mowed or landscaped area that is not needed for active recreation may be suitable.
3. New pollinator gardens: partial or full sun and near a water source for establishing plants
4. Preparation may simply involve identifying fields and meadows that can be left un-mown for extended periods to promote flowering and seeding of native plant species.
5. Pollinator habitats range from small areas near visitor centers to larger fields. Pollinator-friendly plantings support numerous kinds of native bees, as well as honeybees, butterflies, hummingbirds, and other

pollinators.

6. These habitats near active visitor areas provide opportunities to engage visitors about measures to improve stewardship and landscaping for wildlife and connect visitors to the importance of native pollinators and their habitats.
7. Consider adding bird or bat houses, bee houses, water features (bird baths, bowl shaped rocks), frog houses, locally sourced logs, rock piles; all provide habitat features for pollinators to eat, drink, house, or lay eggs on.

B. Management practices

1. Mowing should always be done in low gear/at slow speeds to allow wildlife the chance to react. Consider mowing in a circular pattern, starting from the center and moving outward to avoid concentrating wildlife and reduce incidental mortality
2. Mow 7 to 12 inches above the ground to allow small plants to bloom. This also provides food and habitat for wildlife.
3. Maintain a mown edge approximately 20 feet wide to suppress any invasive species that may establish in edge habitats.
4. Mow one or more paths of short vegetation for public access around the area, if appropriate.
5. Equipment should be washed before and after each mow to limit the spread of invasive plants.
6. Leave the litter/cut vegetation.
7. Inspect for invasive plants: remove small invasive plants by hand

Best management practices (continued)

8. Newly established pollinator gardens may require protection from:
 - a. Foot traffic: use fencing/barriers and/or signage.
 - b. Wildlife eating seeds: mulch and add stakes/strings/flagging, or bird netting as necessary.
 - c. Young sprouts and seedlings: may need protection from wildlife (temporary fencing).
 - d. All fencing and other exclusion materials should be removed when vegetation is established.
- C. Educational components/signage
 1. Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources has created a poster that can be printed, laminated, and added to informational kiosks. The poster is available at: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/massachusetts-native-plants-and-pollinators-poster/download>
- D. Pollinator plantings
 1. Planting a diverse mix of flowering plants which provide a sequence of blooms from early spring to late fall will have the most impact. Even a small patch of the right flowers can help, as it adds to the bigger ecosystem.
 2. Seeding: broadcast seed mix at recommended rates by hand-held spreader.
 3. Plantings: choose native species that provide pollinator resources in spring, summer and fall. Plantings should be placed in sweeps (several of the same species planted on a curve). This makes it easier for the pollinators to find the plants they prefer.

MANAGEMENT FOR WILDLIFE

- A. Habitat
 1. Strategically place piles of brush in the forested areas or at the edges of the fields can be assembled to provide resting/escape cover and den sites for wildlife.
 2. Leaving dead or partially dead standing trees provide several important benefits to a variety of wildlife. Snags provide cavities for nesting and resting, perches for hunting and displaying, and an abundant supply of food for insect eaters.
 3. Nest boxes, platforms, and other types of nesting structures provide nest sites for wildlife in areas where natural nest sites (particularly cavities) are absent or available only in low numbers
- B. Shrublands
 1. Shrublands are areas that were once fields and are now filling in with saplings and shrubs. Unless they are periodically maintained they will grow up into forest.
 2. They are important for a variety of birds and small mammals as they provide food and cover.
 3. It is recommend that shrublands be mowed periodically (every five years).

Best management practices (continued)

COMMUNITY GARDENS

- A. Community building & participation
 - 1. Host orientation meeting in spring for new gardeners
 - 2. Establish group workdays where all gardeners help clean and maintain common areas, typically communal work days occur at least twice during the season, for opening and closing day.
 - 3. Gardeners and volunteers will be expected to work together to maintain shared spaces including communal plots, composting bins, garden sheds, and greenhouses.
 - 4. If/when expansion is possible, have gardeners assist in the planning and development
- B. Plot maintenance
 - 1. Establish required maintenance days
- C. Education
 - 1. Promote conservative water use and equitable access
 - 2. Educate about approved fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides and their appropriate applications
 - 3. Establish standards for on-site composting

VEGETATION IN HISTORIC LANDSCAPES

- A. General
 - 1. Non-natives and invasive plants may have been intentionally planted in historic landscapes. The preservation plan for a historic landscape may include plants that are ornamental, non-native or even invasive, as historic gardening designs often took advantage of new imported species.
 - 2. When rehabilitating historic gardens, consider planting appropriate substitutions for invasives or aggressive species when those plants are not critical to the historic landscape character.
- B. GIS practices
 - 1. GIS Inventory/Mapping
 - a. Refer to GIS management
- C. Invasive and Volunteer Growth
 - 1. Volunteer trees and shrubs can destroy the design of a historic landscape, eliminating views and introducing plants that are out of place and out of scale to the original character. Volunteer tree saplings should be pulled immediately, and larger trees should be cut to grade.
 - 2. Invasive species can quickly overtake a historic landscape, so their control or elimination should be a priority. The treatment of an invasive plant may depend on the species.
 - a. Refer to Invasive Management

Best management practices (continued)

D. Maintenance practices

1. Monitoring

- a. Trees in historic landscapes should be assessed and pruned on a 3-5-year pruning cycle and trees should be pruned on a site-by-site approach. Assessments should be used as a tool to create detailed and specific work plans.
- b. Monitoring should take place each year for hazardous trees, conducted by the Town of Arlington. If the assessing work is subbed out, work should be conducted by a Massachusetts Certified Arborist
- c. Town of Arlington Tree Warden or MA Certified Arborist shall review the trees annually for potential risk to abutters, infrastructure, etc.

2. Trees of Significance Maintenance

- a. Assess the existing trees for age-appropriate trees that would have been planted at the time of landscape installation.
- b. Identify 'Heritage/Historic' trees (A heritage tree is typically a large, individual tree with unique value, which is considered irreplaceable)
 - Pruning work should take the following priority order into consideration:
 - Safety pruning
 - Pruning for the health of the tree
 - Pruning for longevity of the tree (i.e. weight reduction, thinning, etc)
 - Soils and Amendments
 - Soil testing

- Tree specific amendment plan for Heritage trees should be conducted by a Certified Massachusetts arborist.

3. General Tree Maintenance

- a. Safety Pruning
 - Address the hazardous trees
- b. Routine Deadwood Pruning
 - Dead or decaying limbs, 2 inches in diameter or greater.
- c. Structural pruning for new trees
 - Young trees sized 6 to 12 inches diameter breast height (DBH)
 - Pruning methods should help train the tree, at a young age, to grow with a correct form to reduce pruning and maintenance costs in the future.
- d. Preserve the location, species, form and arrangement of trees within a historic landscape.
- e. Prune for tree health and public safety according to professional arboricultural practices.
- f. Avoid root collars during mowing and leaf clean up and any work involving motorized equipment.
- g. Protect the tree's critical root zone. Avoid activities that might compact the soil in the root zone (driving, storing heavy equipment, trails). The protection zone should be as wide as the drip line of the tree canopy and should be clearly marked during major construction projects or events.
- h. Replace historic trees in kind; if an alternate plant is needed, replacements should retain the size, form

Best management practices (continued)

and location of the historic plants

4. Shrub maintenance

- a. Historic landscapes may have extensive horticultural collections which should be managed not only for the visual character, but also for their botanical identity.
- b. Shrubs should be pruned to maintain their historic form and size. Overgrown shrubs can change the character of a historic landscape. If historic shrubs cannot be pruned back to their intended form, they should be replaced in kind.
- c. Select replacement shrubs to maintain the overall character, size, shape function and location of historic plants whenever possible.

5. Perennial and annuals maintenance

- a. Divide perennials every 3 to 5 years to ensure plant health and to retain landscape character.
- b. Annuals may be planted only in existing plant beds and/or containers in historic landscapes.

6. Vines and Ground covers

- a. Historic vines include Boston ivy, wisteria, climbing roses, climbing hydrangea; ground covers include; pachysandra, periwinkle, and wintercreeper (to name a few). Vines can exert excessive weight, increase moisture and directly grow into historic structures and should be trained onto secondary supports whenever possible.
- b. Provide adequate support for climbing vines.
- c. Prune vines regularly to avoid overgrowth onto historic structures and plantings.

- d. Root prune or install root barriers around plants that are particularly aggressive (wisteria).
- e. Cut back groundcovers that are impacting pathways, encroaching on plant beds, or otherwise spreading

7. Turf maintenance

- a. Mow formal lawn areas regularly to achieve a clean, clipped lawn look. These include lawn in formal gardens, designed cemeteries, golf courses, building grounds, training/parade grounds, and some campgrounds.
- b. Formal lawns in high traffic areas and on steep slopes may also require aeration, fertilizer and reseeding to reverse effects of erosion and compaction.
- c. Mulch leaves directly into turf, adding a source of nutrients and eliminating waste.
- d. Use mowers and line trimmers with care, avoiding damage to the bark and root systems.
- e. Large meadows, recreation fields and farm fields are not meant to be formal lawns and can be mowed less frequently.
 - See Meadow/grassland management

Best management practices (continued)

CULTURAL RESOURCES

- A. Built features in historic landscapes
 - 1. Cut plants close to the surface, do not pull roots on or near built features.
 - 2. Retain paths and trails in their original layout, alignment, materials, and construction.
 - 3. Maintain grading of swales and crowns to ensure proper drainage.
 - 4. Avoid topographical changes.
 - 5. Views from roads into gardens, framed views between buildings, or wide vistas at the terminus of a main drive heighten the experience of the landscape and should be clearly shown on plans.
 - 6. Maintain vegetation regularly to keep views and vistas clear.
 - 7. Protect stone features from typical threats, including vegetation growth, development, vandalism, and theft
- B. Historic landscapes should have a preservation plan so that no development adversely impacts the landscape
 - 1. Preservation plans should include historic research, an inventory of existing conditions, an analysis of historical integrity and significance, a treatment plan, and a maintenance plan
- C. Based on the level of significance, the landscape should be nominated to the local, state, or federal level of the Registry of Historic Places

CEMETERY & BURIAL GROUND MANAGEMENT

- A. Tree Maintenance
 - 1. Prune or remove, if necessary, hazard trees surrounding cemetery every 5 years. Dead wood should be removed every year.
 - 2. Remove volunteer growth including all trees inside most pre-1860 cemeteries
 - 3. Tree removal: cut stumps to grade and promote natural decay. Do not stump grind.
- B. Invasive vegetation
 - 1. Remove invasive species by cutting to grade (do not pull roots or grind stumps); concentrate in areas where historic plants, trees and ground cover are threatened; licensed applicators may apply herbicides, if needed.
- C. Maintain significant historic plantings
- D. Turf Maintenance
 - 1. Mow lawn to a height of 3 inches keeping equipment 12 inches away from markers; finish last 12 inches with nylon line trimmers (not around marble).
 - 2. Use only organic fertilizers and Integrated Pest Management, avoid chemical treatment which can damage stones or create “dead zones” from high salt content.
 - 3. For pre-1831 burial grounds consider mowing less frequently; formal lawn is not characteristic of cemeteries before that time.
 - 4. If erosion or compaction is impacting graves or other features, consult with an archaeologist to explore grading treatment to redirect water flows.

Best management practices (continued)

5. Where soils are compacted, periodic aeration in the late summer or early fall with a core aerator may be desirable. Aeration should be limited to a depth of 6 inches to protect against potential damage to buried resources, and aeration equipment should remain at least 12 inches away from grave markers.
- E. Stone monuments and markers
1. Reset toppled stones from walls.
 2. Remove limbs, branches and other debris from stone walls, steps and monuments immediately after major storm events and seasonally each spring.
 3. Record major structural collapse of walls, steps and monuments.
 4. Markers are typically slate, marble and granite but may also be zinc or other metal.
 5. Do not attempt to clean, right, or reset markers without consultation with an archaeologist.
 6. Do not remove markers even if they are damaged.
 7. Prune sap and berry producing trees and shrubs away from stones.
- F. Metals
1. Maintain painted surfaces on iron fences and gates; keep bolts tight and intact (replace missing).
- G. Trail & Road Maintenance
1. Refer to trails management
- H. Signage
1. Provide signage to educate public, especially when a change in treatment leads to a new aesthetic, i.e., longer mowing heights in historic burying grounds.

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- A. Bio-swales
1. The maintenance and inspection schedule should take into consideration the effectiveness of the bio-swale.
 2. Inspect bio-swale the first few months after construction to make sure that there is no rilling or gullyng, and that vegetation in the channels is adequate.
 3. Thereafter, inspect the channel twice a year for slope integrity, soil moisture, vegetative health, soil stability, soil compaction, soil erosion, ponding, and sediment accumulation.
 4. Inspect and remove trash, April through November
 - a. Monthly
 2. Mow, during the growing season
 - c. As needed
 4. Mulch, spring
 - e. Bi-annually
 6. Remove dead vegetation, spring/fall
 - g. Twice per year
 8. Prune plant material, spring/fall
 - i. Twice per year
 9. Replace plant material, fall
 - j. As needed
 10. Take care to protect drainage channels from snow removal procedures and off-street parking
- B. Vegetated (grassed) swales
1. The maintenance and inspection schedule should take

Best management practices (continued)

into consideration the effectiveness of the bio-swale.

2. Inspect bio-swale the first few months after construction to make sure that there is no rilling or gullyng, and that vegetation in the channels is adequate.
3. Thereafter, inspect the channel twice a year for slope integrity, soil moisture, vegetative health, soil stability, soil compaction, soil erosion, ponding, and sediment accumulation.
4. Regular maintenance tasks include mowing, fertilizing, liming, watering, pruning, weeding, and pest control.
5. For grassed swales, mow channels at least once per year, f designed for mowing
6. Do not cut the grass shorter than three to four inches.
7. Keep grass height under 6 inches to maintain the design depth necessary to serve as a conveyance.
8. Do not mow excessively, because it may increase the design flow velocity.
9. Remove sediment and debris manually at least once per year.
10. Re-seed periodically to maintain the dense growth of grass vegetation.
11. Take care to protect drainage channels from snow removal procedures and off-street parking.

C. Bio-retention/Rain gardens

1. Inspect and remove trash, year round
 - a. Monthly
2. Mulch, spring
 - a. Bi-annually, if designed to include mulch

3. Remove dead vegetation, spring/fall

- a. Annually

4. Prune plant material, spring/fall

- a. Annually

5. Replace plant material, fall

- a. As needed

D. Retention/detention basins

1. Wet Basins (Wet retention ponds—e.g., McClennen Park)
 - a. Inspect wet basins at least once per year to ensure they are operating as designed.
 - b. Inspect the outlet structure for evidence of clogging or excessive outflow releases.
 - c. Potential problems to check include: subsidence, erosion, cracking or tree growth on the embankment, damage to the emergency spillway, sediment accumulation around the outlet, inadequacy of the inlet/outlet channel erosion control measures, changes in the condition of the pilot channel, erosion within the basin and banks, and the emergence of invasive species.
 - Make any necessary repairs immediately.
 - e. During inspections, note any changes to the wet basin or the contributing watershed area because these may affect basin performance.
 - f. At least twice a year, mow the upper-stage, side slopes, embankment and emergency spillway.
 - g. At this time, also check the sediment forebay for accumulated material, sediment, trash, and debris and remove it.

Best management practices (continued)

- h. Remove sediment from the basin as necessary, and at least once every 10 years.
 - Providing an on-site sediment disposal area will reduce the overall sediment removal costs
 - 2. Dry Detention Basin
 - a. Inspect dry basins to ensure they are operating as designed
 - At least once a year
 - b. Mow the upper-stage, side slopes, embankment, and emergency spillway
 - At least once a year
 - c. Check the sediment forebay for accumulated sediment, trash and debris and remove it
 - At least twice a year
 - d. Remove sediment from the basin
 - As necessary, and at least once every 10 years
 - 3. Constructed Stormwater Wetlands
 - a. Inspect the system twice a year, both in the growing and non-growing seasons.
 - b. During these inspections note the following:
 - The types and distribution of the dominant wetland plants
 - The presence and distribution of planted wetland species
 - The presence and distribution of invasive wetland species (invasives must be removed)
 - Indications that other species are replacing the planted wetland species;
 - Percentage of standing water that is un-vegetated (excluding the deep water cells which are not suitable for emergent plant growth)
 - The maximum elevation and the vegetative condition in this zone, if the design elevation of the normal pool is being maintained for wetlands with extended zones;
 - Stability of the original depth zones and the micro-topographic features; and
 - Accumulation of sediment in the forebay and micro-pool; and survival rate of plants (cells with dead plants must be replanted).
 - c. Sediment forebays should be cleaned and trapped sediment should be removed, fall and spring
 - At least twice a year
 - d. Remove trash
 - At least twice a year
- E. Permeable pavements—e.g., Arlington Reservoir, Hurd Field, Spy Pond, and Wellington Park
- 1. Monitor to ensure that the paving surface drains properly after storms
 - a. As needed and specifically after major storms
 - 2. For porous asphalts and concretes, clean the surface using power washer to dislodge trapped particles and then vacuum sweep the area.
 - a. As needed
 - 3. For paving stones, add joint material (sand) to replace material that has been transported
 - a. As needed

Best management practices (continued)

4. Inspect the surface annually for deterioration
 - a. Annually
5. Assess exfiltration capability at least once a year.
 - a. When exfiltration capacity is found to decline, implement measure from the Operation and Maintenance Plan to restore original exfiltration capacity
 - b. As needed, but at least once a year
6. Reseed grass pavers to fill in bare spots
 - a. As needed, spring/fall

GIS MANAGEMENT

A. General Overview

1. Geographic Information System (GIS) should be utilized to track completed work, for data management, and as a planning tool.

B. Forest Management

1. Map polygons based on woodland typology and characteristics
 - a. Site Characteristics
 - Moisture levels
 - Slope
 - Solar aspect
 - b. Canopy Characteristics
 - Overstory canopy coverage
 - Understory light
 - Canopy gap sizes
 - Viable regeneration openings
 - Impediments to regeneration

- c. Species Composition
 - Species found within a woodland section
 - General age breakdown
- d. Miscellaneous Information
 - Woody debris
 - Shrub and woody material found
 - Herbaceous material found
- e. Invasives
 - Note all invasives present in the section

C. Tree Management

1. Individual trees (park trees, trees adjacent to paths and parking lots)
 - a. Trees should be assessed and inventoried by a Massachusetts Certified Arborist and should include the following criteria at a baseline.
 - GPS location
 - Tree identification number (physical tree tag on tree)
 - Species
 - Diameter breast height (DBH): include all leaders if a tree is multi-stem
 - Condition
 - Additional criteria could include, compaction, defects, pests present, etc
 - b. Newly planted trees
 - GPS location
 - Tree identification number (physical tree tag on tree)
 - Species
 - DBH: include all leaders if a tree is multi-stem

Best management practices (continued)

- Condition
- Warranty start and end date, if applicable
- Additional criteria could include, compaction, defects, pests present, etc

D. Turf Management

1. Managed turf areas

a. Maintained turf areas should be mapped as polygons

- GPS location
- Irrigation (yes/no)
 - Schedule
 - Repairs
 - Problems to be addressed
- Fertilizer dates
- Aeration dates
- Soil testing
 - Dates
- Fertilizing
 - Specifics
 - Dates
- Over-seed/re-seeding
 - Dates
- Soil compaction
 - Aeration dates
- Rotational lawn use panels
 - Specifics
- Turf replacement practices
- Dog walking/off leash

2. Managed turf sports fields

a. Maintained turf areas should be mapped as polygons

- GPS location
- Irrigation (yes/no)
 - Schedule
 - Repairs
 - Problems to be addressed
- Soil testing
 - Dates
- Fertilizing
 - Specifics
 - Dates
- Over-seed/re-seeding
 - Dates
- Soil compaction
 - Aeration dates
- Turf replacement
 - Specifics

3. Trails

a. Map all maintained trails as polylines

- GPS location
- Trail Material
 - Yearly/bi-yearly maintenance
 - Repair Dates
 - Problems to be addressed

4. Green Infrastructure (both Public & Private installations)

a. Map all maintained trails as polygons, polylines and/or points

- GPS location
- Material(s)
 - Yearly/bi-yearly maintenance

- Inspection dates
- Problems to be addressed
- Repair dates

5. Stream maintenance

- a. Blockages, including culverts

6. Invasive vegetation management

- a. Location
- b. Last treatment date, technique & responsible party
- c. Schedule
- d. Location
- e. Replacement vegetation

Federal, state & municipal funding opportunities

CAROL M. WHITE FUND PHYSICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Carol M. White Physical Education Program provides grants to Local Education Agencies (LEAs) and community-based organizations (CBOs) to initiate, expand, or enhance physical education programs, including before school, after school, and summer programs for students in kindergarten through 12th grade. Grant recipients must implement programs that help students make progress toward meeting their state's standards for physical education.

Projects must be designed to help students meet its State's physical education standards by undertaking instruction in healthy eating habits and good nutrition and at least one of the authorized physical fitness activities. Authorized physical fitness activities include:

- Fitness education and assessment to help students understand, improve, or maintain their physical well-being
- Instruction in a variety of motor skills and physical activities designed to enhance the physical, mental, and social or emotional development of every student
- Development of, and instruction in, cognitive concepts about motor skills and physical fitness that support a lifelong healthy lifestyle
- Opportunities to develop positive social and cooperative skills through physical activity participation
- Opportunities for professional development for teachers of physical education to stay abreast of the latest research, issues, and trends in the field of physical education

Application cycle:

- Application cycle typically closes near the end of May.

Additional information can be found at:

- <https://www2.ed.gov/programs/whitephysed/index.html>

MASSACHUSETTS LAND & WATER CONSERVATION FUND (LWCF)

The Federal Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) provides up to 50% of the total project cost for the acquisition, development, and renovation of:

- Parks
- Trails
- Conservation areas

The National Park Service requires the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to complete a Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan every five years to remain eligible for funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant program. Since the program was established in 1965, more than \$100,000,000 has been awarded to every county in the state for the acquisition of conservation or park land, development of new parks, the renovation of existing parks, or trail development.

LWCF funding is provided to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts by the NPS and is administered by Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs' (EEA) Division of Conservation Services (DCS). For projects that will have a significant impact on climate resiliency, the maximum grant award is \$1,000,000. The maximum grant award for all other project is \$750,000. The minimum grant award is \$50,000 (see further detail on Funding Availability). EEA reserves the right to fund projects through sources other than LWCF should it so choose.

Federal, state & municipal funding opportunities (continued)

Eligible projects include:

- Acquisition of parkland or conservation land
- Creation of new parks
- Renovations to existing parks
- Development of trails

Application cycle:

- Deadlines typically fall in late January each year.

Additional information can be found at:

- <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/massachusetts-land-and-water-conservation-fund-grant-program>

MASSACHUSETTS ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST GRANT PROGRAMS

Massachusetts Environmental Trust (MET) supports a variety of environmental protection and conservation projects, and has awarded grants to many deserving Massachusetts communities.

Funds support projects that restore and improve aquatic ecosystems that benefit river habitat and recreational fishing areas, and increase understanding of the aquatic environment and its inhabitants, and the effects of human activities upon them.

Examples of the kinds of eligible project concepts:

- Addressing factors affecting areas that support nurseries, feeding, migration and spawning for at-risk fish
- Advancement of the revival of urban rivers and rural rivers that go through mill towns
- Collection, removal, and recycling of harmful debris in

rivers and bays

- Construction of signage for public paths bordering a water body

General Grants: The General Grants support nonprofit organizations and municipalities in efforts to restore, protect, and improve water and water-related resources of the Commonwealth. Proposals are accepted once annually for programs and initiatives that address threats to the health of the state's water bodies and watersheds.

Application cycle:

- This program typically accepts letters of Inquiry in October and full proposals are due in March of the following year.

Additional information can be found at:

- <https://www.mass.gov/met-projects-and-grant-awards>

MASSACHUSETTS NON-POINT SOURCE (SECTION 319) PROGRAM

This grant program is authorized under Section 319 of the federal Clean Water Act for implementation projects that address the prevention, control, and abatement of non-point source (NPS) pollution. In general, eligible projects must:

- Implement measures that address the prevention, control, and abatement of NPS pollution;
- Target the major source(s) of non-point source pollution within a watershed/sub-watershed;
- Contain an appropriate method for evaluating the project results; and

Federal, state & municipal funding opportunities (continued)

- *Must address activities that are identified in the Massachusetts NPS Management Plan.*

Application cycle:

- *This program typically opens in September with proposals due in mid-December each year.*

Additional information can be found at:

- <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/grants-financial-assistance-watersheds-water-quality#section-319-nonpoint-source-competitive-grants-program>

MASSACHUSETTS PRESERVATION PROJECTS FUND

The Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund (MPPF) is a state-funded 50% reimbursable matching grant program established in 1984 to support the preservation of properties, landscapes, and sites (cultural resources) listed in the State Register of Historic Places. Applicants must be a municipality or nonprofit organization.

Historic cultural resources in public and nonprofit ownership and use frequently suffer from deferred maintenance, incompatible use, or are threatened by demolition. These important resources represent a significant portion of the Commonwealth's heritage. By providing assistance to historic cultural resources owned by nonprofit or municipal entities, the Massachusetts Historical Commission hopes to ensure their continued use and integrity.

The owner of a property funded for a development or acquisition project must enter into and record a preservation restriction and maintenance agreement in perpetuity. Owners of properties funded for pre-development projects shall enter into a

preservation restriction for a term of years, depending on the grant amount awarded.

Application cycle:

- *Applications typically due in mid-March.*

Additional information can be found at:

- <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc/mhcmppf/mppfidx.htm>

MASSACHUSETTS EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIR'S MUNICIPAL VULNERABILITY PREPAREDNESS (MVP) ACTION GRANT

The Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness grant program (MVP) provides support for cities and towns in Massachusetts to begin the process of planning for climate change resiliency and implementing priority projects. The state awards communities with funding to complete vulnerability assessments and develop action-oriented resiliency plans. Communities who complete the MVP program become certified as an MVP community and are eligible for MVP Action Grant funding and other opportunities.

There are two grant programs available, for planning and for action:

The MVP Planning Grant offers funding to municipalities that wish to assess their vulnerability to and prepare for climate change impacts, build community resilience, and receive designation from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) as an MVP Community. MVP Communities are eligible for MVP Action Grant funding to implement the priority actions identified through the planning process.

Federal, state & municipal funding opportunities (continued)

The MVP Action Grant offers financial resources to municipalities that are seeking to advance priority climate adaptation actions to address climate change impacts resulting from extreme weather, sea level rise, inland and coastal flooding, severe heat, and other climate impacts.

Application cycle:

- The application cycle typically opens each spring.

Additional information can be found at:

- <https://www.mass.gov/municipal-vulnerability-preparedness-mvp-program>

MASSACHUSETTS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)

Massachusetts Community Development Block Grant Program is a federally funded, competitive grant program designed to help small cities and towns meet a broad range of community development needs.

The Community Development Fund (CDF) awards grants to communities throughout the Commonwealth. This program helps eligible cities and towns to meet a broad range of community development needs in housing, infrastructure, revitalization, economic development and public social services. It supports CDBG eligible activities and encourages applicants to develop coordinated, integrated and creative solutions to local problems.

Eligible CDBG projects include, but are not limited to:

- Housing rehabilitation or development
- Micro-enterprise or other business assistance
- Infrastructure
- Community/public facilities
- Public social services
- Planning
- Removal of architectural barriers to allow access by persons with disabilities
- Downtown or area revitalization

Applications can be submitted by individual communities or regionally by multiple communities with one lead community.

Application cycle:

- Applications are typically due in early March.

Additional information can be found at:

- <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/community-development-block-grant-cdbg>

MASSTRAILS

MassTrails provides matching grants to communities, public entities and non-profit organizations to plan, design, create, and maintain the diverse network of trails, trail systems, and trails experiences used and enjoyed by Massachusetts residents and visitors. Applications are accepted annually for a variety of well-planned trail projects benefiting communities across the state.

MassTrails provides grants to support recreational trail and shared use pathway projects across the Commonwealth. The

Federal, state & municipal funding opportunities (continued)

award maximum depends on the project type and needs and is generally \$50,000 for “local” projects and up to \$300,000 for projects demonstrating critical network connections of regional or statewide significance.

Eligible grant activities include project development, design, engineering, permitting, construction, and maintenance of recreational trails, shared use pathways, and the amenities that support trails.

MassTrails grants are reimbursement grants, meaning grantees must first pay for expenditures and then submit for reimbursement using the required documentation.

MassTrails grants are matching grants and require that proponents provide a minimum of 20% of the total project cost.

Eligible projects require documented land owner permission submitted with the application and are subject to all applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations

MassTrails grants are reviewed and recommended by the Governor’s Inter-Agency Trails Team and the Massachusetts Recreational Trails Advisory Board (MARTAB).

MassTrails Grants are funded through two different sources:

- *Commonwealth Trails grants are supported by the state’s annual Capital Investment Plan and aim to help communities design, create and maintain off-road shared-use pathway connections between where Massachusetts residents live, learn, work, shop, and recreate, especially by building out the longer distance regional networks of multi-use pathways across the state and filling in critical*

gaps in existing networks, or overcoming current barriers to connectivity.

- *Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grants are federally funded through the United States Department of Transportation’s Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), administered at the State level, providing funding for the development and maintenance of recreational trail projects. Both motorized and non-motorized trail projects qualify for assistance.*

Application cycle:

- *Application cycle typically opens in November.*

Additional information can be found at:

- *<https://www.mass.gov/guides/masstrails-grants>*

PARKLAND ACQUISITIONS AND RENOVATIONS FOR COMMUNITIES (PARC) GRANT

**Previously known as the Urban Self-Help Grant*

The PARC Program was established to assist cities and towns in acquiring and developing land for park and outdoor recreation purposes. These grants can be used by municipalities to acquire parkland, build a new park, or to renovate an existing park.

Any town with a population of 35,000 or more year-round residents, or any city regardless of size, that has an authorized park /recreation commission is eligible to participate in the program. Communities that do not meet the population criteria listed above may still qualify under the “small town,” “regional,” or “statewide” project provisions of the program.

Federal, state & municipal funding opportunities (continued)

Applications are open to all municipalities that have submitted an up-to-date Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Eligible projects include:

- *Acquisition of parkland*
- *Development of new parks*
- *Improvements to existing parks*
- *The number of residents in your city or town may affect grant award. Please refer to the application and documents provided for more information.*

Details:

- *Maximum grant award amount: \$400,000*
- *Reimbursement rate: 52% to 70%*

Application cycle:

- *Applications typically due in mid-July.*

Additional information can be found at:

- *<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/parkland-acquisitions-and-renovations-for-communities-parc-grant-program>*

Private grant funding opportunities

GARDEN CONSERVANCY GRANT PROGRAM

In February 2021, the Garden Conservancy launched a new, annual initiative which allows us to award grants typically ranging from \$5,000 to \$10,000 to small public gardens and other nonprofit organizations that are making a significant impact in their communities through garden-based programming, with a focus on diverse populations.

This year, we are pleased to award grants to sixteen recipients representing a cross-section of gardens and organizations, all nonprofits and many of them small organizations, selected by our 2022 Grant Program Advisory Committee. We are delighted to support their valuable work in their communities across the country.

Part of our Garden Conservancy Grant Program, the Page Dickey Grant for American Gardens is an endowed grant of \$10,000, awarded each year to a distinguished small public garden.

The Conservancy will not award a grant to an organization more than once within a three-year period.

Application cycle:

- Contact the Conservancy for more information on the grant application cycle.

Additional information can be found at:

- <https://www.gardenconservancy.org/news/gardens-for-good>

ACRES FOR AMERICA

Acres for America, a partnership between Walmart Stores, Inc. and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, supports efforts to conserve lands of national significance, protect critical fish and wildlife habitat, and benefit people and local economies. Preference will be given to projects that achieve more than one of the following program priorities:

- Conserve critical habitats for birds, fish, plants, and wildlife
- Connect existing protected lands to unify wild places and protect critical migration routes
- Provide access for people to enjoy the outdoors; and ensure the future of local economies that depend on forestry, ranching, and recreation.

All grant awards require a minimum 1:1 match of cash or contributed goods and services. Non-profit organizations, state and local government agencies, Indian tribes, and educational institutions are eligible to apply. Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact the Regional Office Director to discuss project ideas prior to applying.

Acres for America priorities include:

- Conserve critical habitats for birds, fish, plants and wildlife
- Connect existing protected lands to unify wild places and protect migration routes
- Provide access for people to enjoy the outdoors
- Ensure the future of local economies that depend on forestry, ranching and recreation

Application cycle:

- Application cycles vary depending on grant fund.

Private grant funding opportunities (continued)

Additional information can be found at:

- <https://www.nfwf.org/>

MASS AUDUBON JUDY RECORD CONSERVATION FUND

We award grants to public and private groups for projects that support protecting, maintaining, restoring, and acquiring conservation lands in the Town of Belmont and the neighboring communities of Lexington, Arlington, Watertown, Waltham, and Cambridge.

In addition, the Fund considers projects within conservation lands that further the development of multi-use paths, off-road hiking/biking trails, and universally-accessible trails.

Application cycle:

- To begin the application process, submit a one-page description of your proposal to the Fund's Executive Director.
- The Board of Directors meets regularly and will discuss proposals as they are received. Applicants will be notified promptly of the Board's evaluation. If the Board decides the proposal merits further consideration, they will be invited to submit a full proposal.

Additional information can be found at:

- <https://www.massaudubon.org/get-outdoors/wildlife-sanctuaries/habitat/judy-record-conservation-fund/how-to-apply#:~:text=We%20award%20grants%20to%20public,Watertown%2C%20Waltham%2C%20and%20Cambridge>

FIELD POND FOUNDATION

The primary mission of Fields Pond Foundation is to provide financial assistance to nature and land conservation organizations that are community-based and that serve to increase environmental awareness by involving local residents in conservation issues.

The Foundation's emphasis stems from its founding Directors' beliefs that the conservation of special places in our environment, and providing public accessibility to those conservation areas, is a desirable end in itself; but it is also a means of building public support for future land and river conservation by increasing the direct connection between individuals and their environment, and fostering active participation in the work of conservation.

The expected range of grants is \$500 to \$25,000, with most falling within the range of \$2,000 to \$10,000. The Foundation is willing to consider multiple-year grants.

Application cycle:

- *Proposals and concept papers may be submitted at any time, since the Directors meet regularly throughout the year.*

Additional information can be found at:

- <http://www.fieldspond.org/>

Additional resources

MASSACHUSETTS COMMUNITY GRANT FINDER

Additional grant opportunities may be found with the Commonwealth's community grant finder website. Grant opportunities cover the following topics:

- Community One Stop for Growth
- Community Compact Cabinet
- Community Development
- Culture
- Education
- Emergency Management and Planning
- Energy
- Environment
- Federal Grants
- Health
- Historic Preservation
- Housing
- Libraries
- Mediation
- Public Accessibility
- Public Safety
- Public Works and Transportation

Additional information can be found at:

- <https://www.mass.gov/lists/community-grant-finder>

Part 4. Public land management Recommendations

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MANAGEMENT ENTITIES

LAND USE TYPE PRIORITIES

- Conservation
- Passive recreation
- Active recreation
- Flood control
- Small conservation parcels

RECOMMENDATIONS BY LAND USE TYPE

- Site specific recommendations spreadsheet
- Recommendations by land use type

EXISTING MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS

- Analysis of existing maintenance contracts
- Contracted work summary spreadsheet
- Recommendations of maintenance contracts

Public land management recommendations for the Town of Arlington were determined by pairing BMPs with priorities established by the Public Land Management Working Group. These recommendations were then reviewed by the Working group and other stakeholders, including the public. Accordingly, the recommendations reflect diverse perspectives, align with Town priorities, and are informed by expert guidance.

Recommendations are displayed in a variety of ways in this section. Site specific recommendations index the best practices applicable to each of the public lands included in this plan. Small conservation parcels are excluded from this list as the recommendations for those sites are consistent across properties. Since land use types differ within a given site, recommendations are also given in terms of landscape. In both cases, management responsibilities are identified. Finally, existing maintenance contracts are analyzed and recommendations for revisions are given.

Recommendations for management entities

- Consider changes to management entities based on land use and landscape types. In particular, evaluate the most appropriate management entity for Crusher Lot, Monument Park, Park Circle, and Turkey Hill.

Land use type priorities

The recommendations made in this section of the report were determined by reviewing the Best Management Practices surveyed from the previous section of the report though the priorities established by the project's Working Group. These priorities were organized by land use type—conservation, passive recreation, active recreation, flood control, historic/cultural, cemetery, civil, and education.

Recommendations were then defined for each landscape type applicable in the land use categories, and recommendations were assigned to appropriate Town agencies or other appropriate parties (i.e., volunteer groups and/or private contracts).

To begin, the Working Group identified the following priorities for the identified land use types:

ACTIVE RECREATION

- Develop a maintenance and management plan for playground surfacing.
- Develop a maintenance and management plan for courts (crack repair/sealcoating/striping).
- Explore opportunities within the turf treatment contract to expand services to improve sports field conditions.
- Ensure irrigation systems at all sports fields are operational and functional. Expand coverage as needed to improve sports field conditions.
- Consider converting natural grass fields to artificial turf

Land use type priorities (continued)

CONSERVATION

- Develop a plan for overall maintenance of sites
- Consistent invasive vegetation management
- Managing for biodiversity, pollinator pathways

FLOOD CONTROL

- Porous pavement maintenance, other green infrastructure, especially as techniques are employed more and diversify
- Dam operations
- Bank stabilization

PASSIVE RECREATION

- Trail maintenance, including closing social trails
 - Erosion prevention
 - Maintenance for heavy use, e.g., track & field team at the Reservoir
- Wayfinding and educational signage

SMALL CONSERVATION PARCELS

- Landscape ecology approach to land management

For the land use categories of Historic/Cultural, Education, Civic, and Cemetery, no specific priorities were identified.

HOW TO USE THIS SECTION

The site specific recommendations spreadsheet is coded and refers to the foregoing section, recommendations by land use type.

The recommendations are coded in the following manner:

- A = Site amenities
- B = Bank stabilization
- C = Circulation
- D = Trash & debris
- E = Erosion repair
- F = Turf care
- G = Ornamental gardens
- I = Invasive vegetation management
- M = Meadows
- O = Open lawns
- R = Trails
- T = Tree care/specimen trees
- U = Usage
- W = Woodlands/Woodland buffers

Recommendations by land use type

CONSERVATION

Woodlands

- W1. Pruning and select tree removals of hazardous trees and branches near high-risk targets (adjacent paths/site amenities) that could impact the trails will be necessary. Review woodlands annually and plan pruning cycles for every 7 years.
- Natural Resources (Trees & Parks)
 - Arlington Land Stewards (for debris distribution only)
- W2. When pruning and selective felling is undertaken, place piles of brush in woodlands to provide wildlife habitat. Leave dead standing trees, when not adjacent to trail or other resource, to allow habitat for wildlife.
- Natural Resources (Trees & Parks)
 - Arlington Land Stewards (for debris distribution only)
- W3. Strategically place piles of brush in the forested areas or at the edges of the fields can be assembled to provide resting/escape cover and den sites for wildlife.
- Natural Resources (Trees & Parks)
 - Arlington Land Stewards
- W4. Woodlands that have a good age distribution, but dense understory should be thinned out of some of the younger trees (polewood)
- Contract out to a certified arborist, forester, etc.
- W5. Review woodlands for canopy gaps in the current canopy where native woodland species could be planted for successional regeneration.
- Contract out to a consulting forester, etc.

Erosion repair

- E1. Use bioengineering methods (i.e., log cribs, live staking, brush-layering, etc.) to slow stormwater runoff and contain soil. Install temporary fencing to prevent disturbance of regenerating soils. Techniques will depend on the type of soil, erosion, and its severity.
- Contract out
 - Arlington Land Stewards

Meadows

- M1. Convert meadows to early season mowing (at 2-inch height) to reduce the woody vegetation and forbs for the coming season. Mowing before May 15th will help control the unwanted vegetation and still have the field available for nesting, cover, and food for wildlife through the winter.
- Department of Public Works
 - Contract out, if necessary
- M2. Educate park visitors about the goals and benefits of incorporating meadows into parks and public landscapes. Healthy, vegetated meadows look different than traditional turf, and may be unfamiliar to the public. Dog walkers, in particular, should be educated about the benefits of meadows and how off-leash dogs can detract from these benefits.
- Planning & Community Development

Invasive vegetation management

- I1. Monitor properties annually for invasive vegetation, especially near boundaries and disturbed areas (e.g., roadsides, trailheads). Eliminate new infestations as soon

Recommendations by land use (continued)

as observed, manually if possible. Follow USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) treatment recommendations for removal procedures. Areas should be monitored after the treatments each spring for three seasons to confirm that all treatments were successful.

- Conservation Commission
- Arlington Land Stewards
- Contract out, if large areas

I2. Replant areas where invasive vegetation have been successfully removed with a native woodland plant mix (may include shrubs, plugs, and/or seed mix) to deter other invasives vegetation from becoming established.

- Contract out

I3. Mature trees listed as invasive species trees should be phased out and replanted with native shade trees.

- Natural Resources (Trees & Parks)

Bank stabilization

B1. Preserve natural vegetation on banks in clumps, blocks, or massing to sustain existing root systems. Leave all natural vegetation on unstable steep slopes. Do not remove tree stumps.

- Conservation Commission

B2. On severely degraded banks where there is ample space, use natural materials to create new bank with more gradual slope. Consider log cribbing, live staking, and/or coir logs to help retain and/or reestablish the bank.

- Conservation Commission
- Contract out

PASSIVE RECREATION

Trails

R1. Accessible trails: Assess each spring to determine if it needs to be resurfaced to maintain the required 'firm and stable' surface.

- Department of Public Works
- Contract out, if necessary

R2. Aggregate trails (i.e., stabilized stone dust, stonedust, crushed stone): Assess every 2 to 3 years in spring to determine if it needs to be resurfaced.

- Department of Public Works
- Contract out, if necessary

R3. Earth trails: Conduct annual inspection of earth trails—especially on steep sites—for erosion issues. Use bio-engineering techniques (i.e., log cribs, live staking, brush-layering, etc.) to contain soil. Use water bars to control stormwater flow. Re-vegetate with native species.

- Department of Public Works
- Contract out, if necessary

R4. Close any redundant trail segments and/or trails that impact natural resources. To encourage natural regeneration of plant material fencing should be installed at either end of the pathway.

- Recreation Department

R5. Install wayfinding signage throughout the interior of the site, at key trail intersections, to keep visitors from cutting new trails.

- Recreation Department

Recommendations by land use (continued)

Specimen trees

T1. Inspect specimen trees in parks annually for damage, fungus, pests, etc. Prune as necessary for hazards and schedule regular pruning on a 7-year cycle. Trees with concerns should be inspected and monitored by the Tree Warden from a risk standpoint and possibly removed at their determination.

- Natural Resources (Trees & Parks)

Wooded buffers

W1. Challenging growing conditions (slope, road salt, runoff, and poor soils) of narrow buffers between roadways and parks promote the growth of invasive plant species. Monitor annually these woodland edges for invasive species, and eliminate new infestations as soon as observed, manually if possible. Follow USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) treatment recommendations for removal procedures.

- Volunteers
- Contract out, if large areas

W2. Hazardous trees should be removed, and hazardous branches pruned. Inspected annually if they are adjacent to busy roadways or private property lots.

- Natural Resources (Trees & Parks)

Turf care for open lawn areas

F1. Current mowing contract for open lawn areas in parks includes weekly mowing from April through July and bi-weekly mowing August through October. Stipulations should be provided so that in the heat of summer or in a

drought period, mowing schedules are paused as turf is not growing. This will reduce dust in the parks, ease resources (funds and fossil fuels), and cause less damage to the dormant turf.

- Contract out

F2. Increase mowing heights based on turf type and use. 2 to 2-1/2 inches high is appropriate for un-programmed/non-athletic play.

- Contract out

F3. Open lawn areas adjacent to jurisdictional wetlands should not include any applications of nitrogen- or phosphorous-rich fertilizers due to runoff/leaching into resource areas.

- Contract out

F4. Open lawn areas where off-leash dogs are permitted (and therefore will have a concentration of dog recreation) should be added to the turf treatment contract.

- Contract out

Meadows

M1. Convert underused turf areas (outside fields or high use areas) to meadow or pollinator plants for wildlife benefit and to reduce maintenance resources.

- Recreation Department
- Contract out

M2. Convert meadows to early season mowing (at 2-inch height) to reduce the woody vegetation and forbs for the coming season.

- Recreation Department
- Contract out

Recommendations by land use (continued)

M3. Educate park visitors about the goals and benefits of incorporating meadows into parks and public landscapes.

- Planning & Community Development

Site amenities

A1. Sign trails with information about the trail system at trailheads, and wayfinding throughout the system where appropriate, to locate interesting viewsheds, ecologically sensitive areas (vernal pool) and/or connections in/out of the town-owned property.

- Planning & Community Development

ACTIVE RECREATION

Usage

U1. Where appropriate, consider converting existing natural turf field to synthetic turf to allow increase in usage rates.

- Recreation Department

U2. Where in areas determined not suited to synthetic turf, consider renovating field to have sand-based turf root zone with proper under-drain system, surface drainage patterns, and irrigation to allow for healthy turf grass system that can handle high use. Ensure turfgrass mix has a high percentage of Kentucky bluegrass (65% to 75%) in seed mix to withstand high use and wear.

- Recreation Department

U3. All fields should be irrigated once their subsoil and topsoil have been improved for drainage. The well-drained soils necessary for high-use fields will require additional water and nutrients for the turfgrass to thrive.

- Recreation Department

Turf care

F1. Compaction of topsoil prevents water infiltration which results in puddling of the field and poor root growth. Increase high-use field aeration to four times per year. Deep tine aeration should be undertaken in spring, prior to over-seeding.

- Contracted out

F2. Sports fields areas adjacent to jurisdictional wetlands should not include any applications of nitrogen- or phosphorous-rich fertilizers due to runoff/leaching into resource areas.

- Contract out

F3. Stipulations should be provided so that in the heat of summer or in a drought period, mowing schedules are paused if turf is not growing. This will reduce the reliance on resources (funding and fossil fuels), will reduce dust in the parks, and cause less damage to the dormant turf.

- Department of Public Works

F4. For sports fields that abut conservation properties, consider implementing an organic turfgrass management program.

Trails

R1. Social trails in areas of high use should be formalized to prevent erosion and compaction, and to ensure inclusivity for all visitors. Formal walkways can be installed with several different materials selected to be best suited to the context and sustainability goals (i.e., permeable pavements).

- Recreation Department

Recommendations by land use (continued)

Tree care

T1. Inspect specimen trees in parks annually for damage, fungus, pests, etc. Prune as necessary for hazards and schedule a regular pruning on a 7-year cycle. Trees with concerns should be inspected and monitored by the Tree Warden from a risk standpoint and possibly removed at their determination.

- Natural Resources (Trees & Parks)

FLOOD CONTROL

Trails

R1. Close any redundant trail segments and/or trails that impact natural resources. To encourage natural regeneration of plant material fencing should be installed at either end of the pathway.

- Planning & Community Development
- Conservation Commission

R2. Trails in, or adjacent to, properties where flood control is an issue, should be formalized with stable pavements (i.e., non-aggregate) to reduce erosion of soils and sedimentation of waterways. Ideally these pavements would be porous pavements to increase flood storage volume also.

- Planning & Community Development
- Conservation Commission

Turf care for open lawn areas

T1. Open lawn areas in, or adjacent to, properties where flood control is an issue, should have mowing heights increased

to slow stormwater runoff, and should be regularly aerated to ensure positive drainage.

- Department of Public Works
- Contract out

T2. Convert underused lawn areas (outside fields or high use areas) to meadow or pollinator plantings to slow stormwater runoff and increase infiltration.

- Recreation Department
- Contract out

Bank stabilization

B1. Preserving natural vegetation on banks in clumps, blocks, or strips is generally the easiest and most successful method of stabilization. Leave all unstable steep slopes in natural vegetation. Do not remove tree stumps.

- Conservation Commission
- Contract out

B2. Where there is space, use natural materials to create new bank with more gradual slope. Consider log cribbing, live staking, brush-layering, and/or coir logs to help retain and/or re-establish the bank.

- Conservation Commission
- Contract out

Recommendations by land use (continued)

CEMETERY

Tree care

T1. Remove limbs, branches and other debris from stone walls, steps, and monuments immediately after major storm events and seasonally each winter. Prune or remove, if necessary, hazard trees and limbs. Conducting the work in winter is beneficial for the health of the trees (as they are in dormancy) and will result in less damage to the turf areas.

- Natural Resources (Trees & Parks)

T2. Mount Pleasant Cemetery: The current maintenance contract does not include tree pruning, just shrubs (twice annually). Schedule regular pruning for cemetery trees every 5 years. Remove volunteer growth including all trees. Prune sap and berry producing trees and shrubs away from monuments and memorials.

- Natural Resources (Trees & Parks)
- Contract out, if necessary

T3. Historic Burying Ground: Establish a tree succession plan with plantings and location appropriate to historic aesthetic.

- Natural Resources (Trees & Parks)

Turf care

F1. Stipulations should be provided so that in the heat of summer or in a drought period, mowing schedules are paused if turf is not growing. This will reduce the reliance on resources (funding and fossil fuels), dust in the parks, and damage to turfgrass in dormancy.

- Contracted out

F2. Mount Pleasant: Current contract does not stipulate mowing height. Mow turf areas to a height of 3 inches keeping equipment 12 inches away from markers. Trim 12 inches closest to markers with nylon line trimmers (not around marble headstone).

- Contracted out

F3. Historic Burying Ground: Reduce mowing frequency and allow lawns to grow to a longer, less manicured state more appropriate to historic period of the burying ground. (The current contract stipulates mowing to a height of 2.5 inches in spring, maximum of 3 inches in April to May, and September to October, and 3.5 inches in July to August, consistent with the Town Hall, Library, and Whittemore-Robbins House landscapes.)

- Contracted out

Circulation

C1. Mount Pleasant Cemetery: Use signage to keep vehicles off grass. Or, convert edges of critical parking locations from turf to more sustainable and maintainable surface if people will continue to be allowed to park on edges.

- Cemetery Division

HISTORIC/CULTURAL

Tree care

T1. When removing plants in historic landscapes, cut vegetation at surface so as not to disrupt historic structures, built features, or other potential resources below grade. Follow-up treatment may be required to prevent/eliminate suckering.

- Natural Resources (Trees & Parks)

Recommendations by land use (continued)

T2. Inspect specimen trees annually for damage, fungus, pests, etc. Prune as necessary for hazards and schedule regular pruning a 3-year cycle. Trees with concerns should be inspected and monitored by the Tree Warden from a risk standpoint and possibly removed at their determination.

- Natural Resources (Trees & Parks)

CIVIC

Ornamental gardens

G1. Cut ornamental grasses in early spring rather than late fall. This provides winter interest in gardens, as well as a food source for wildlife.

- Volunteers

G2. Test soil every 4 to 5 years, or if plant conditions indicate poor plant health. Apply fertilizer by spreading it on the ground around the tree, beginning about 4-6 feet away from the trunk and extending to a distance several feet beyond the drip line of the tree. Fertilize shrubs sparingly, only if soil test results indicate it is necessary.

- Contract out

G3. Keep the planting bed or mulch rings around the tree free of weeds and other unwanted. This will reduce competition for moisture and nutrients.

- Volunteers

G4. Maintain a layer of organic, composted mulch, 2 inches to 3 inches deep maximum, in planting beds, or mulch ring around the trees. Mulch will help to suppress weeds, conserve soil moisture, and moderate soil temperature. Mulch annually in spring.

- Volunteers

Turf maintenance for open lawn areas

F1. Current mowing contract for open lawn areas in parks includes weekly mowing from April through July and bi-weekly mowing August through October. Stipulations should be provided so that in the heat of summer or in a drought period, mowing schedules are paused as turf is not growing. This will reduce dust in the parks, ease resources (funds and fossil fuels), and cause less damage to the dormant turf.

- Contract out

F2. Increase mowing heights based on turf type and use. 2 inches to 2-1/2 inches high is appropriate for un-programmed/non-athletic play.

- Contract out

EDUCATION

Trails

R1. Formalize social trails if used by students to walk to school. Provide hardscape sidewalks, stairs, etc., to ensure safety.

- Department of Public Works

SMALL CONSERVATION PARCELS

*The recommendations for the small conservation parcels have not been included in the spreadsheet as they apply to all of the associated parcels.

Woodlands

W2. Pruning and select tree removals of hazardous trees and branches near high-risk targets (adjacent paths/site amenities) that could impact the trails will be necessary.

Recommendations by land use (continued)

Review woodlands annually and plan pruning cycles for every 7 years.

- Natural Resources (Trees & Parks)
- Arlington Land Stewards (for debris distribution only)

W3. When pruning and selective felling is undertaken, place piles of brush in woodlands to provide wildlife habitat. Leave dead standing trees, when not adjacent to trail or other resource, to allow habitat for wildlife.

- Natural Resources (Trees & Parks)
- Arlington Land Stewards (for debris distribution only)

W4. Strategically place piles of brush in the forested areas or at the edges of the fields can be assembled to provide resting/escape cover and den sites for wildlife.

- Natural Resources (Trees & Parks)
- Arlington Land Stewards

Invasive vegetation management

- I1. Monitor properties annually for invasive vegetation, especially near boundaries and disturbed areas (e.g., roadsides, trailheads). Eliminate new infestations as soon as observed, manually if possible. Follow USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) treatment recommendations for removal procedures. Areas should be monitored after the treatments each spring for three seasons to confirm that all treatments were successful.
 - Conservation Commission
 - Arlington Land Stewards
- I2. Replant areas where invasive vegetation have been successfully removed with a native woodland plant mix (may include shrubs, plugs, and/or seed mix) to deter other

invasives vegetation from becoming established.

- Conservation Commission
- Arlington Land Stewards
- Contract out, if necessary for larger areas

I3. Mature trees listed as invasive species trees should be phased out and replanted with native shade trees.

- Natural Resources (Trees & Parks)

Site amenities

- A1. Sign conservation parcels with information about the parcel and rules and regulations. Making rules clear, the status of the parcels as conservation lands, and Town-ownership should help to curtail dumping.
 - Planning & Community Development

Trash and debris

- D1. Clean sites tend to stay clean, and trash tends to accumulate where it is visible. Schedule regular, cyclical cleanup days with volunteer groups to ensure trash and debris does not accumulate.
 - Conservation Commission
 - Arlington Land Stewards

Existing maintenance contracts

ANALYSIS OF EXISTING MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS

As turf and lawn maintenance is one of the most intensive maintenance tasks—much of which is contracted out by the Town of Arlington—one of the objectives of this management plan was to review and analyze the existing contracts. The following discussion and subsequent spreadsheet summarizes the contracts (described in the first section of this report) and highlights anomalies.

For the most part, the contracts follow these patterns:

- The properties with turf contracts are managed by the Recreation Department.
- Properties with natural turf sports fields have turf treatment under contract but mowing of sports fields is undertaken by DPW. Presumably, this is because DPW Parks Division needs to stripe the fields and cut infield clay edges, so they also mow these facilities.
- All of the fields which have natural turf sports fields are included on the Recreation Department's Field Use Request form. (Two properties included on the form that were not included in this plan are Crosby school Park and the Pierce Elementary School fields.)
- Other properties with open lawn areas that are not categorized as sports fields, are contracted out for mowing and turf maintenance. Most of these receive turf treatment per the contract.

There are, however, some anomalies:

- Menotomy Rocks Park has open lawn areas (not sports fields) that received turf treatment under contract, and also has mowing under contract. (It is worth noting that the

open lawn areas at Menotomy Rocks Park are not included on the Recreation Department's Field Use Request form.)

- Mount Pleasant Cemetery is included in similar contracts as Menotomy Rocks Park—both turf treatment and mowing is under contract, but is a very different landscape with time-intensive mowing patterns.
- Uncle Sam Park & Monument is the only properties with open lawn areas (not sports fields) that are being maintained by the Department of Public Works.
- The Ottoson School field and Spy Pond Park and Scannell Fields are the only properties with and sports fields, as well as open lawn areas that are contracted out for mowing and that also receives turf treatment.
- Cooke's Hollow is the only property managed by Conservation Commission that is under the mowing contract.
- Crusher Lot is included under management of the Recreation Department, but aligns better with the landscape types typically under the management of the Conservation Commission.
- Turkey Hill is the only property included in this plan that has shared management of both Conservation Commission and the Recreation Department. The property is aligned better with the landscape types under the management of the Conservation Commission.
- Of the seven properties categorized in this plan as *Monuments, Open Spaces, and Gardens*, two are managed by the Select Board (Whittemore Park and Uncle Sam Park—technically, the same parcel), one is managed by the Office of the Town Manager (Town Hall Civic Block), two are managed by the Cemetery Division (Mount Pleasant

Existing maintenance contracts (continued)

Cemetery and the Old Burying Ground), and two are managed by the Recreation Department (Park Circle and Monument Park).

Site-specific recommendations spreadsheet

Property	Ownership	Managed by	Conservation	Passive recreation	Active recreation	Flood Control	Cemetery	Historic/Cultural	Civic	Education	Landscape types
Arlington Reservoir	Town of Arlington (Partially located in Lexington)	Recreation Department	W1, W2, W3 W4, W5 I1, I2, I3 B1, B2	R1, R2, R3 T1 W1, W2 F1, F2, F3	-	B1, B2 T1	-	-	-	-	Woodlands Specimen trees Open lawn Invasive species Native/pollinator garden
Arlington's Great Meadows	Town of Arlington (Located in Lexington)	Select Board	W1, W2, W3, W4, W5 E1 M2 I1, I2, I3 B1, B2	R2, R3, R4, R5 W1, W2 M2, M3 A1	-	-	-	-	-	-	Woodlands Meadow/grassland Invasive species
Bishop Elementary School Field	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	-	F1, F2 M1, M2, M3	U1, U2, U3 F1, F3 R1 T1	-	-	-	-	R1	Specimen trees Open lawn Natural turf sports field Clay sports field
Buzzell Fields	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	-	-	U2, U3 F1, F3, F4 T1	-	-	-	-	-	Specimen trees Natural turf sports field Clay sports field
Cooke's Hollow	Town of Arlington	Conservation Commission	W1, W2 E1 I1, I2, I3 B1, B2	R1, R2 T1 W1, W2 F1, F2, F3	-	R2 T1 B1, B2	-	-	-	-	Woodlands Specimen trees Open lawn Invasive species

Refer to Recommendations by land use type for a key to the best management practices recommendations

Property	Ownership	Managed by	Conservation	Passive recreation	Active recreation	Flood Control	Cemetery	Historic/Cultural	Civic	Education	Landscape types
Crusher Lot	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	W1, W2, W3, W4, W5 E1 I1, I2, I3	R3, R4, R5 W1, W2 A1	-	-	-	-	-	-	Woodlands Invasive species
Florence Field at the Dallin Elementary School	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	-	-	U1, U2, U3 F1, F3 T1	-	-	-	-	R1	Specimen trees Natural turf sports field Clay sports field
Hill's Hill	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	W1, W2, W3, W4, W5 E1 I1, I2, I3	R3, R4, R5 T1 W1, W2 A1	U1, U2, U3 F1, F3 T1	-	-	-	-	-	Woodlands Natural turf sports field
Hurd Field	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	-	-	F1, F2, F3, F4 T1	-	-	-	-	-	Woodlands Specimen trees Open lawn Meadow/grassland Invasive species Natural turf sports field Clay sports field
Magnolia Park & Field	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	-	T1 W1, W2 M1, M2, M3	U2, U3 F1, F2, F3, F4 T1	-	-	-	-	-	Specimen trees Open lawn Community garden Native/pollinator garden Natural turf sports field

Property	Ownership	Managed by	Conservation	Passive recreation	Active recreation	Flood Control	Cemetery	Historic/ Cultural	Civic	Education	Landscape types
McClennen Park	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	W1, W2, W3, W4, W5 M1, M2 I1, I2, I3	R2, R3, R4, R5 T1 W1, W2 F1, F2, F3, F4 M2, M3 A1	U2, U3 F1, F2, F3, F4 R1 T1	R1, R2	-	-	-	-	Woodlands Specimen trees Open lawn Meadow/ grassland Invasive species Natural turf sports field Clay sports field
Meadowbrook Park	Town of Arlington	Conservation Commission	W1, W2, W3, W4, W5 E1 I1, I2, I3 B1, B2	R3, R4, R5 W1, W2 A1	-	R1, R2 B1, B2	-	-	-	-	Woodlands Invasive species
Menotomy Rocks Park	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department Contracted	W1, W2, W3, W4, W5 E1 M1, M2 I1, I2, I3 B1, B2	R2, R4, R5 T1 W1, W2 F1, F2, F3, F4 M1, M2, M3 A1	-	-	-	-	-	-	Woodlands Specimen trees Open lawn Invasive species
Monument Park	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department Contracted	-	-	-	-	-	T1, T2	-	-	Specimen trees Open lawn Ornamental gardens
Mount Gilboa	Town of Arlington	Conservation Commission (Town Manager)	W1, W2, W3, W4, W5 E1 I1, I2, I3	R3, R4, R5 W1, W2 A1	-	-	-	-	-	-	Woodlands

Property	Ownership	Managed by	Conservation	Passive recreation	Active recreation	Flood Control	Cemetery	Historic/Cultural	Civic	Education	Landscape types
Mount Pleasant Cemetery	Town of Arlington	Cemetery Commission	-	T1 W1, W2 F1, F2, F3	-	-	T1, T2, T3 F1, F2 C1	-	-	-	Specimen trees Open lawn Invasive species
North Union Park & Lussiano Field	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	-	T1 W1, W2 F1, F2, F3 M1, M2	U1, U2, U3 F1, F3 T1	-	-	-	-	R1	Specimen trees Open lawn Natural turf sports field Clay sports field
Old Burying Ground	Town of Arlington	Cemetery Commission	-	-	-	-	T1, T3 F1, F3	T1	-	-	Specimen trees Open lawn
Ottoson Middle School Field	Town of Arlington	School Department	-	-	U1, U2, U3 F1, F3 T1	-	-	-	-	R1	Woodlands Open lawn Natural turf sports field Clay sports field
Parallel Park	Owned by MA DCR, leased to Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	-	T1 W1, W2 M1, M2	U1, U2, U3 F1, F3 T1	-	-	-	-	-	Woodlands Specimen trees Open lawn
Park Circle Water Tower	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	-	T1 F1, F2, F3 M1, M2, M3	-	-	-	-	-	-	Specimen trees Open lawn
Pheasant Avenue Park/Greeley Playground	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	-	T1 F1, F2, F3 M1, M2, M3	U1, U2, U3 F1, F3 T1	-	-	-	-	R1	Specimen trees Open lawn Natural turf sports field

Property	Ownership	Managed by	Conservation	Passive recreation	Active recreation	Flood Control	Cemetery	Historic/Cultural	Civic	Education	Landscape types
Poet’s Corner	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	-	-	U2, U3 F1, F2, F3, F4 T1	-	-	-	-	-	Woodlands Specimen trees Open lawn Invasive species Natural turf sports field Clay sports field
Robbins Farm Park	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	-	R1, R2 W1, W2 F1, F3, F4 M1, M2	U2, U3 F1, F3 T1	-	-	T1, T2	-	-	Specimen trees Open lawn Community garden Natural turf sports field Clay sports field
Spy Pond Park & Scannell Fields	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	W2, W6 E1 M1, M2 I1, I2, I3	R3, R4, R5 T1 W1, W2 F1, F2, F3, F4 M1, M2, M3 A1	U2, U3 F1, F2, F3, F4 R1 T1	-	-	-	-	-	Woodlands Specimen trees Open lawn Invasive species Natural turf sports field Clay sports field
Thorndike Field	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	-	-	U2, U3 F1, F2, F3, F4 T1	-	-	-	-	-	Woodlands Invasive species Natural turf sports field

Property	Ownership	Managed by	Conservation	Passive recreation	Active recreation	Flood Control	Cemetery	Historic/Cultural	Civic	Education	Landscape types
Town Hall Civic Block	Town of Arlington	Office of the Town Manager	-	T1 W1, W2 F1, F2	-	-	-	T1, T2	G1, G2, G3, G4	-	Woodlands Specimen trees Open lawn Invasive species Ornamental garden
Turkey Hill	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department Conservation Commission	W1, W2, W3, W4, W5 E1 I1, I2, I3	R3, R4, R5 W1, W2 A1	-	-	-	-	-	-	Woodlands Invasive species
Uncle Sam Park & Monument	Town of Arlington	Select Board	-	-	-	-	-	T1, T2	G2, G3, G3 T1, T2	-	Specimen trees Open lawn Ornamental garden
Veterans' Memorial Sports Complex, Buck & Robillard Fields	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	-	R2, R4, R5 T1 W1, W2 F1, F2, F4 M1, M2 A1	U1, U2, U3 F1, F3, F4 T1	-	-	-	-	-	Woodlands Specimen trees Open lawn Natural turf sports field Clay sports field
Waldo Park & Playground	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	-	T1 W1, W2 F1, F2, F4 M1, M2, M3	-	-	-	-	-	-	Specimen trees Open lawn Ornamental garden

Property	Ownership	Managed by	Conservation	Passive recreation	Active recreation	Flood Control	Cemetery	Historic/Cultural	Civic	Education	Landscape types
Wellington Park	Town of Arlington	Recreation Department	W1, W2, W3, W4, W5 E1 M1, M2 I1, I2, I3 B1, B2	T1, W1, W2 F1, F2, F3, F4 M1, M2, M3	-	R1 T1, T2 B1, B2	-	-	-	-	Woodlands Specimen trees Open lawn Invasive species Native/pollinator garden
Whittemore Park at the Jefferson Cutter House	Town of Arlington	Select Board	-	R1, R2 T1 W2 F1, F2, F4	-	-	-	T1, T2	-	-	Open lawn Specimen trees Invasive species Ornamental garden
Window-on-the-Mystic	Town of Arlington	Conservation Commission	W1, W2, W3, W4, W5 E1 I1, I2, I3 B1, B2	W1, W2 R3, R4, R5 A1	-	-	-	-	-	-	Woodlands Invasive species

Contracted work summary spreadsheet

Property	Managed by	Current uses	Landscape types (lawn/turf only)	Mowing by DPW (& field striping)	Included in mowing contract	Included in turf treatment contract	Other contract (define)
Arlington Reservoir	Recreation Department	Conservation Passive recreation Flood Control	Open lawn	-	-	-	Mowing & clean-ups contracted out as of 2022
Arlington's Great Meadows	Select Board	Conservation Passive recreation	Meadow/ grassland	-	-	-	Mowing through FoAGM
Bishop Elementary School Field	Recreation Department	Passive recreation Active recreation Education	Open lawn Natural turf sports field	X	-	X	-
Buzzell Fields	Recreation Department	Active recreation	Natural turf sports field	X	-	X	-
Cooke's Hollow	Conservation Commission	Passive recreation Flood Control	Open lawn	-	X	-	-
Crusher Lot	Recreation Department	Passive recreation	-	-	-	-	-
Florence Field at the Dallin Elementary School	Recreation Department	Active recreation Education	Natural turf sports field	X	-	X	-
Hill's Hill	Recreation Department	Conservation Passive recreation Active recreation	Natural turf sports field	X	-	X	-
Hurd Field	Recreation Department	Active recreation	Open lawn Meadow/ grassland Natural turf sports field	X	-	X	-

DECEMBER 2022

Property	Managed by	Current uses	Landscape types (lawn/turf only)	Mowing by DPW (& field striping)	Included in mowing contract	Included in turf treatment contract	Other contract (define)
Magnolia Park & Field	Recreation Department	Passive recreation Active recreation	Open lawn Natural turf sports field	X	-	X	-
McClennen Park	Recreation Department	Conservation Passive recreation Active recreation Flood control	Open lawn Meadow/ grassland Natural turf sports field	X	-	X	Meadow mowing by DPW
Meadowbrook Park	Conservation Commission	Conservation Passive recreation Flood control	-	-	-	-	-
Menotomy Rocks Park	Recreation Department	Conservation Passive recreation	Open lawn	-	X	X	-
Monument Park	Recreation Department	Historic/Cultural	Open lawn	-	-	-	-
Mount Gilboa	Conservation Commission Town Manager	Conservation Passive recreation	-	-	-	-	-
Mount Pleasant Cemetery	Cemetery Commission	Passive recreation Cemetery	Open lawn	-	X	X	-
North Union Park & Lussiano Field	Recreation Department	Passive recreation Active recreation Education	Open lawn Natural turf sports field	X	-	X	-
Old Burying Ground	Cemetery Commission	Historic/Cultural Cemetery	Open lawn	-	-	-	Mowing & clean-ups contracted out

ARLINGTON PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN

Property	Managed by	Current uses	Landscape types (lawn/turf only)	Mowing by DPW (& field striping)	Included in mowing contract	Included in turf treatment contract	Other contract (define)
Ottoson Middle School Field	School Department	Active recreation Education	Open lawn Natural turf sports field	-	X	X	-
Parallel Park	Recreation Department	Passive recreation Active recreation	Open lawn	-	X	-	-
Park Circle Water Tower	Recreation Department	Passive recreation	Open lawn	-	X	-	-
Pheasant Avenue Park/Greeley Playground	Recreation Department	Passive recreation Active recreation Education	Open lawn Natural turf sports field	X	-	X	-
Poet's Corner	Recreation Department	Active recreation	Open lawn Natural turf sports field	X	-	X	-
Robbins Farm Park	Recreation Department	Passive recreation Active recreation Historic/Cultural	Open lawn Natural turf sports field	X	-	X	-
Spy Pond Park & Scannell Fields	Recreation Department	Conservation Passive recreation Active recreation	Open lawn Natural turf sports field	-	X	X	Invasive plant management
Thorndike Field	Recreation Department	Active recreation	Natural turf sports field	X	-	X	-
Town Hall Civic Block	Office of the Town Manager	Passive recreation Historic/Cultural Civic	Open lawn	-	-	-	Mowing & clean-ups contracted out

Property	Managed by	Current uses	Landscape types (lawn/turf only)	Mowing by DPW (& field striping)	Included in mowing contract	Included in turf treatment contract	Other contract (define)
Turkey Hill	Recreation Department Conservation Commission	Conservation Passive recreation	-	-	-	-	-
Uncle Sam Park & Monument	Select Board	Passive recreation Historic/Cultural	Open lawn	X	-	-	-
Veterans' Memorial Sports Complex, Buck & Robillard Fields	Recreation Department	Passive recreation Active recreation	Open lawn Natural turf sports field	X	-	X	-
Waldo Park & Playground	Recreation Department	Passive recreation Active recreation	Open lawn	-	X	-	-
Wellington Park	Recreation Department	Passive recreation Active recreation Flood control	Open lawn	-	X	-	-
Whittemore Park at the Jefferson Cutter House	Select Board	Passive recreation Historic/Cultural	Open lawn	-	-	-	-
Window-on-the- Mystic	Conservation Commission	Conservation Passive recreation	-	-	-	-	-

Existing maintenance contracts (continued)

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONTRACTS

- None of the mowing contracts make stipulations for the heat of summer and/or a drought condition when turf is not growing. Pausing mowing efforts during these times will reduce maintenance costs, reduce use of fossil fuels, support the root growth of the turf which is stressed when mowing occurs, and will reduce the dust in parks when conditions are dry. This is also true for the fields and lawn areas mowed by the DPW Parks Division.
- Open lawn areas in parks where off-leash dogs are permitted, should be added to the turf treatment contract due to the excessive wear and tear caused by the dogs' play.
- After the renovation of Arlington Reservoir in 2022 and additional open lawn area was established, the Recreation Department negotiated to have the lawn area surrounding the beach to have a mowing and clean-up contract. After the lawn is fully established, it may be seen that the turf areas receive substantial wear and tear in especially in the summer season. It may be that this area will also require turf treatment.
- Starting in 2022, the Town contracted out invasive plant management & monitoring at Spy Pond Park. The monitoring and treatment is conducted four times annually. While the Arlington Reservoir was under construction in 2022, and as part of that construction, invasive plant removal was included. However, given the extent of the invasive plants, on-going treatment will be necessary. It is recommended that this existing contract be amended to include the Arlington Reservoir and Hurd Field as well.
- Menotomy Rocks Park should be removed from the turf treatment contract as it is the only lawn area not considered sports field by the Recreation Department.
- Consider adding Uncle Same Park and Monument to the mowing contract.
- Consider removing the Ottoson Middle School fields and the Spy Pond Park and Scannell Field from the mowing contract to consolidate the turf maintenance of all the sports fields. However, these are good-sized fields and may substantially increase the time and resources required of the DPW's Parks Division.
- Ensure that the turf treatment contract complies with state law, especially 330 CMR 31.00: Plant nutrient application requirements for agricultural land and non-agricultural turf and lawns.

Recommendations for Future Public Land Management Plans

The Public Land Management Working Group, Town boards and committees, and the public met for the final forum of the planning process in December, 2022. The following recommendations were made for future editions of the plan.

- Include playground surfacing, courts, and irrigation systems in scope
- Explore opportunities to improve sports field conditions and expand services under the turf treatment contract as well as infrastructure improvements
- Consider management and maintenance of accessibility features, including ramps, trails, signage, and other aspects of making Town open spaces usable by all residents
- Research best management practices for snow removal, storage, and related concerns
- Align management of public lands with the Town Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey, consider probable historical sensitivity
- Add public art to land management criteria, coordinate with the Park & Recreation Commission and the Commission for Arts and Culture
- Evaluate climate change impacts of land management, such as the possibility for carbon sequestration
- Consider opportunities for tree planting in active recreation sites, parking lots, and other areas with an emphasis on extreme heat mitigation

